



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Committee on Judiciary.

My name is Representative Alicia Collins. I represent the towns of Sidney and Vassalboro.

I will keep my testimony brief as I know many people behind me would like the opportunity to testify and have more expertise in firearms concerns.

First, I'd like to invite all of you to join me at Liberty Firearms Academy, in New Vineyard, for a firearms safety course. This course is designed to educate the basics of firearms rules & safety. Safe gun handling. The fundamentals of stance, grip, and trigger control with a firearm. The day concludes with live fire shooting at the range, and, yes, you will have fun.

I appreciate the opportunity to ask you to please support LD 424 (An Act Concerning the Concealed Carrying of a Handgun by an Individual Who Is 18 Years of Age but Under 21 Years of Age).

Maine State Law Title 25, Chapter 252, §2001-A, sub-§2, ¶A-1 seems to conflict with Title 25, Chapter 252, §2003, sub-§1, ¶A.

Both sections address concealed carry for 18-year-olds, one allows (§2003) the person to apply for a permit & carry concealed, however, the other (§2001) doesn't allow the concealed carrying unless this same person is active duty or honorably discharged and is not otherwise prohibited from carrying a firearm.

The conflict came about in the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session when LD 652 (An Act To Authorize the Carrying of Concealed Handguns without a Permit), Constitutional Carry, came into effect, and the amendment language was added limiting 18-20-year-olds.

So, what is an 18-year-old? According to Maine Title 22, (Chapter 1451, §5104, sub-§1-A an "Adult" means any person who has attained the age of 18 years or who is a legally emancipated minor), an 18-year-old is an adult.

18-year-olds can vote, 18-year-olds can work a full-time job, and 18-year-olds can enlist in the military.

LD 424 is simple; it applies common sense logic to Maine State Law and allows *adults* to exercise their rights to Constitutionally Carry.

Thank you for your time today and I would defer all questions to allow time for others to testify.

Alicia C. Collins

State Representative