

LD's 208, 1230 and 1062

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Polly Haight Frawley, I live in Cumberland, and I am testifying in opposition to LD 208 and LD 1230, and also LD 1062.

I urge you to vote against all three of these proposals for the same reason which is that our constitutional processes need to be given a chance to operate, to play out so to speak. I practiced law for many years and have a healthy respect for our constitutional systems, if they are allowed to operate.

Regarding the two bills, LD 208 and 1230, that seek to repeal the 72 hour waiting period, you all, and indeed the legislature as whole, spent considerable time and energy considering this issue last session. It was difficult. The waiting period was enacted, was legally challenged and is now being considered by the 1st Circuit Court of Appeals. This is how our system is supposed to work. I urge you to respect your time and effort, and the time of the previous and current legislature as a whole, and vote no and against this attempted repeal. Let's hear from the Court.

Similarly, with respect to the bill to repeal the extension of background checks to advertised sales of firearms, the extension was fully debated, adopted and legally enacted having been signed by the Governor. This was in fact her proposal. We need to respect our constitutional process, and indeed the people of Maine, and give the law more than a year to see what impact it has had.

Thank you for your consideration.