

LD 1009 An Act to Restore Full Civil Rights to Possess Firearms to Persons Previously Convicted of Certain Nonviolent Felony Crimes

Memorandum of Support

Date: May 01, 2025

To: Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee Members,

From: Jonathan Martell

RE: LD 1009 An Act to Restore Full Civil Rights to Possess Firearms to Persons Previously Convicted of Certain Nonviolent Felony Crimes

Members of the committee, I would like to express my Support of LD 1009 An Act to Restore Full Civil Rights to Possess Firearms to Persons Previously Convicted of Certain Nonviolent Felony Crimes

My Name is Jonathan Martell, from Sanford.

I am a currently serving Sanford City Councilor, Lifetime member of the Gun Owners of Maine, Legislative Officer for the Sanford Springvale Fish and Game Club, NRA Range Safety Officer, and lifelong firearms enthusiast.

This bill simply affirms the Maine Constitutional right to keep and bear arms. This is a step in the right direction for those that have paid their debt to society. Even Felons can vote in Maine because it is considered a basic right. This bill has strict guidelines for restoration of rights along with a 10 year waiting period. Should a old man or woman not be able to defend themselves for something they did decades ago? Felonies originally were limited to the most heinous of crimes, but now extend to non violent offenses. While I don't see that status going away anytime soon, the injustice of not having your Constitutionally protected right is a crime in itself.

Please support Mainer's Constitutional Rights, by supporting this bill.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Martell
Sanford, ME