

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

My Name is Gregory Hunnewell from Belgrade Maine, I am here today to testify in opposition to LD 1379, An Act to Require Public Health Warnings to Be Posted and Provided by Firearms Dealers and Gunsmiths.

LD1379 forces dealers and gunsmiths to post alarmist signs and brochures claiming firearms increase suicide and violence risks. This stigmatizes lawful ownership, burdens businesses, and lacks evidence of effectiveness.

The bill assumes that mandating warning signs and brochures will reduce firearm-related incidents, but it provides no evidence to support this claim. Similar warning mandates in other contexts, such as tobacco or alcohol labeling, have shown mixed results in changing behavior, particularly when the target audience is already aware of the risks. Responsible firearm owners are often well-versed in safety practices, and those at risk of misuse may not be swayed by a sign or brochure.

I again ask that you reference my son Dana Hunnewell's testimony on LD 1379 that was submitted online, it is very compelling and raises many Questions about the Validity of this bill

That said, I recommend "Ought Not to Pass."