

LD 1379 -An Act to Require Public Health Warnings to Be Posted and Provided by Firearm Dealers and Gunsmiths

Memorandum of Opposition

Date: March 26, 2025

To: Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee Members,

From: Jonathan Martell

RE: LD 1379 -An Act to Require Public Health Warnings to Be Posted and Provided by Firearm Dealers and Gunsmiths

Members of the committee, I would like to express my Opposition of LD 1379 -An Act to Require Public Health Warnings to Be Posted and Provided by Firearm Dealers and Gunsmiths:

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.

It is already required to have signage at a firearm dealer under:

Title 15 Chapter 17 §455-A. Warning requirement upon sales of firearms

1. Posting of conspicuous warning. Except as provided in subsection 1-A, any commercial retail sales outlet that sells firearms shall conspicuously post at each purchase counter where firearms may be purchased the following warning in block letters not less than one inch in height:

"ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD IS A CRIME. IF YOU LEAVE A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF A CHILD, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO FINE, IMPRISONMENT OR BOTH.
KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATE.
KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION LOCKED UP.
USE TRIGGER LOCKS."

The language proposed in the bill is merely opinion and is not beneficial in any way. The author couldn't even be bothered to look up the hotline number for suicide prevention. Two seconds on Google showed that it's 1-888-568-1112 (Voice) or 711 (Maine Relay).

This is not helpful and only places more burdens on what is mostly small shops with limited resources.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Martell
Sanford, ME