

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee

My Name is Gregory Hunnewell, and I am from Belgrade Maine, and I am here today to testify in opposition to LD 1743,

An Act to Allow Municipalities to Prohibit Firearms Within Their Municipal Buildings and Voting Places and at Their Municipal Public Proceedings.

LD1743 permits municipal firearm bans in public buildings and proceedings, undermining Second Amendment rights. Maine's concealed carry laws ensure responsible ownership. Local bans confuse law-abiding citizens and weaken self-defense without proven benefits.

To quote our Maine constitution, "Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms and this right shall never be questioned." It doesn't say, except when in the vicinity of a municipal employee.

One unintended effect of this bill is the creation of many Gun-Free Zones, which often experience mass shootings.

Overriding the state pre-emption law against local firearms ordinances is unwarranted and unwise.

I recommend "Ought Not to Pass."