



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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*Testimony of Rep. Dave Rollins in support of*  
**LD 1743, An Act to Allow Municipalities to Prohibit Firearms  
Within Their Municipal Buildings and Voting Places and at Their  
Municipal Public Proceedings**  
*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary*

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of the Joint Standing Judiciary Committee. I am Representative David Rollins from House District 59 on the west side of Augusta. Before joining the House of Representatives, I spent 17 years as an elected municipal official, including 9 years as a city councilor and 7 years as the mayor of Augusta.

While the state has prohibited guns in many locations including courthouses, school property, the State Capitol area, state parks and correctional facilities, municipalities cannot independently choose to ban guns on municipal property. Yet, we often emphasize home rule authority during most committee hearings.

As a result, while serving as Mayor we, the city council, had to sit through more than a couple of meetings with an individual in the council chambers open carrying a handgun. An individual who was very present on Facebook making videos, shooting his gun, and presenting a very threatening posture when he was discussing his gun rights on social media.

I am not a radical anti-gun advocate, I am not a second amendment expert, I am a gun owner, and a commonsense leader who believes in common sense protection from violence in all forms. This includes gun violence.

If the state has laws prohibiting guns in courthouses, school property, the State Capital area, state parks and correctional facilities, I strenuously object to the state not passing, or including municipal buildings to be added to the list of prohibited locations where guns can be carried.

I thank the committee for my time and strongly request we vote "ought to pass" on LD 1743.