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**LD 1370: "An Act To Enhance Safety on College and
University Campuses by Allowing Firearms To Be Carried on
the Campuses of Public Colleges and Universities."**

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION
1 May 2017

I am writing to register the Administration's support for LD 1370, "An Act To Enhance Safety on College and University Campuses by Allowing Firearms To Be Carried on the Campuses of Public Colleges and Universities."

By allowing, law abiding students the right to protect themselves, we as a society could provide them with additional security that is so crucial in this era that has been plagued by mass shootings at venues that disallow the possession of firearms.

Evidence in support of bills such as LD 1370 is clear. The Crime Prevention Research Center has found that from the 1950s through July of 2016, 98.4 % of mass shootings have occurred in so called "gun free zones."

If this important bill were to pass, Maine would join a growing number of other states that currently allow their college student population the right to defend themselves by preserving students' Second Amendment freedoms. We would not be the first.

This bill would make Maine public college campuses safer.

For this reason, I strongly urge you to support LD 1370, "An Act To Enhance Safety on College and University Campuses by Allowing Firearms To Be Carried on the Campuses of Public Colleges and Universities."