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I am submitting this testimony in opposition to LD 759 - "An Act To Amend the Child Endangerment Laws To Include Certain Unauthorized Access to a Loaded Firearm".

Not only is this bill overly broad, but it is also unnecessary as both State and Federal laws already address child endangerment and the unlawful transfer of firearms to minors. The true intent of this bill is to dictate to gun owners how they store their privately owned firearms in their own homes. 67% of gun owners identify "protection" as a primary reason for owning a firearm; even the slightest delay in access to a firearm can mean the difference between life and death. Maine has a strong tradition of firearm safety training, uniquely qualifying Mainers to determine for themselves how to balance the safety and security needs of their families and households. These decisions should not be made for them in a one-size-fits-all manner by the government.

I urge you to vote "ought not to pass" on LD 759.