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Dear and esteemed member of the criminal justice and public safety committee,
I just want to take a moment to let you know of my strong opposition to
LD 1138 commonly known as a "stand your ground" bill. Data on this issue strongly indicates
that allowing someone to use lethal force simply because they feel threatened does not
increase public safety but in fact leads to more needless injuries and deaths. A person who
perceives a threat must make the common sense move of retreat first. I understand that
tragically 68% of people killed in these situations weren't even armed. And, of course, most of
those deemed threatening have been people of color. This is a dangerous, racist bill that
doesn't belong in our society much less Maine. Please vote not to pass on LD 1138