

Martin Jackson
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Honorable members of the committee.

I urge you to vote "Ought to pass" on LD1138.

No trained gun owner is ever going to go looking for a gunfight, we all know that drawing a weapon is an action of last resort and could be the last thing we ever do. Having the 'option' to retreat is not always available, sometimes, whatever the situation in life, you have no option to retreat but to stand your ground. You are not always presented with the opportunity or time to retreat.

Simply defending yourself or others should not be illegal because you had no time or option to retreat. Sometimes trying to retreat could expose you from cover and cost you your life. Many of our self defense laws are written from the viewpoint that possible assailants are armed with a gun. As we have seen lately, knife crime is on the rise nationally. People now intend to kill or cause harm with vehicles and the threat of terrorism, both domestic and international is seriously overlooked. From my time living in the the UK, I can tell you this State and this Nation are woefully unprepared and unaware of the risk for the latter to occur.

Forcing the need to retreat on people in fear for their lives is nonsense. The very least we should be able to do is shelter and defend ourselves in place.

Again, I urge you to vote "Ought to pass".