

April 25, 2021

To the Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee:

I am writing to request that you do not create a "Stand Your Ground Law" in Maine. (LD 1138). The research in states that have such a law shows that instead of increasing safety, it increases violence. Armed citizens in public spaces who do not have training in conflict resolution present a danger to all. And there is a racial overtone to the goal of these laws, since the research shows that the lives of our black and brown citizens are more at risk of fatal shootings in states where this approach is taken.

I respectfully ask that this Committee reject this bill in order to not increase gun violence in Maine.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Stanley
Monmouth, ME.