

Jerome Watson  
Pittston

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to urge your support of LD 1138. The duty to retreat from a dangerous or violent person outside the home restricts the ability of a law abiding citizen to defend themselves or others significantly. If I am peaceably walking or otherwise going about my business in public and I am faced with a violent person intent on doing harm to me or others in my vicinity, I should have the legal right to defend myself or said others from harm instead of retreating and allowing the violent person to continue their dangerous and unlawful behavior. While many people believe that private citizens should call for law enforcement to deal with situations such as I am describing, too often the response time for authorities is too long to be of protective value, especially in a rural state such as Maine.

Please allow the citizens of our state to be our own best protection in situations where the police cannot be there in time.

Respectfully,  
Jerome Watson  
Pittston, ME