

Mariah Peric  
SCARBOROUGH  
LD 551

Testimony of Mariah Peric  
before the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,  
in OPPOSITION to LD 551 An Act to Strengthen Maine Citizens' Second  
Amendment Rights by Allowing the Discharge of Firearms on Private Property That  
Is Within 500 Feet of School Property in Certain Circumstances.

I am deeply opposed to this bill for the following reasons:

1. Gun violence prevention measures for our schools should focus on educating kids and parents about the dangers of firearms and importance of secure storage. The BeSmart program is a great tool to use.
2. An overwhelming majority of law enforcement officers agree that armed citizens in or near places like schools would make their jobs harder. As someone with a long line of law enforcement officers in her family, I can assure you, this is the sentiment across the board.

Thank you.