

Maine Chapter

INCORPORATED IN MAINE

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



Executive Committee

President

Laura Blaisdell, MD, MPH,
FAAP

Vice President

Brian Youth, MD, FAAP

Treasurer

Christopher Motyl, DO, FAAP

Secretary

Genevieve Whiting, MD, FAAP

Immediate Past President

Deborah Q. Hagler, MD, MPH,
FAAP

Board of Directors

Mahmuda Ahmed, MD, FAAP

Joseph Anderson, DO, FAAP

Amy Buczkowski, MD, FAAP

Melissa Burch, MD, FAAP

Adrienne Carmack, MD, FAAP

Gabriel Civiello, MD, FAAP

Anne Coates, MD, FAAP

Dan Hale, MD, FAAP

Riley Heroux**

Jennifer Jewell, MD, MS, FAAP

Stephanie Joy, MD, FAAP

Emily Keller, MD, FAAP

Alton Kremer, MD, PhD, FAAP

Michele Labotz, MD, FAAP

Maria Libertin, MD*

Lawrence Losey, MD, FAAP

Valerie O'Hara, DO, FAAP

Gita Rao, MD, FAAP

Sydney Sewall MD, MPH, FAAP

Austin Wheeler Steward**

Jeffrey Stone, DO, FAAP

Mary Tedesco-Schneck, PhD,

NP

Andrea Tracy, MD, FAAP

Aaron Wallace, MD*

*Resident Board Reps

**Medical Student

Representatives

Staff

Dee Kerry, BS Ed

Executive Director

Emily Belanger, RN, BSN

Admin & Project Coordinator

30 Association Drive, Box 190

Manchester, ME 04351

office: 207-480-4185

www.maineaap.org

Testimony in Opposition to LD 1557: "An Act to Increase and Enhance School Safety by Allowing Individuals with Concealed Carry Permits to Possess Handguns on School Property."

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and distinguished members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, I am Dr. Dan Hale of Kittery, Maine and a Board Member for the Maine AAP.

As a father, pediatrician, and responsible firearm owner I support commonsense measures to prevent firearm violence. There is no "easy" unifying intervention that will end firearm violence, but there are several measures that can move us in the right direction of saving lives.

However, LD 1557 does not add value as an attempt to keep our schools safe.

I feel this bill should not pass because indiscriminate concealed handgun carry in schools will lead to accidental shootings. In addition, in an active shooter situation, an armed person may be at risk of being shot by responding police officers who cannot tell who the "good guy" is and who the "bad guy" is.

There is a long history of responsible firearm ownership in Maine. Families have been hunting and fishing together for centuries. The legislature should focus on measures that strengthen safety measures without causing potential inadvertent harm.

Thank you for keeping our communities safe,

Dan Hale, M.D.,FAAP, SFHM