

STATE OF MAINE

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MAINE PROSECUTORS ASSOCIATION
SHIRA BURNS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“An Act to Strengthen Public Safety by Improving Maine’s
Firearm Laws and Mental Health Services”
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
Public Hearing Date: March 7, 2024
Testimony in Support of LD 2224

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. My name is Shira Burns and I represent the Maine Prosecutors Association. This testimony is submitted in support of LD 2224 in regard to sections 7 through 19 of the bill as it pertains to extreme risk protection orders.

The Maine Prosecutors Association supports the changes that are being made to the extreme risk protection orders. The district attorney offices are responsible for representing the State of Maine in these actions. The changes will make the process more efficient and clear for the involved parties compared to how it currently exists.

The MPA requests one amendment to the language in section 15 adding a notice requirement to “the district attorney where the person was taken into protective custody” when the court sends out notice to the restricted person. This already happens in practice but should be codified in statute to make the process clear and transparent for all.

For these reasons, the Maine Prosecutors Association is in support of the change in process in LD 2224 in regard to sections 7 through 19 as compared to how it currently exists.