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Sen Carney, Rep Kuhn, and members of the committee, I am William Armington, I'm from Parsonfield Maine, and I am an Equipment Technician and a gun owner. I would like to testify to my personal experiences of being on the receiving end of automatic gun fire in my immediate neighborhood and in support of greater gun control as a result of my experiences.

In the past two years there has been two occasions where I came under direct gun fire from automatic rifles and the law enforcement was either unwilling or unable to do anything to make my situation safer or stop them from shooting. The first instance was two winters ago when I was out walking on the New rd in Parsonfield which runs parallel with the Middle rd with my wife and dog. We heard gun fire coming from the middle rd in out direction and I assumed that they were shooting into a berm and practicing gun safety until I heard the whizzing of bullets and saw the branches around us being blown apart from impacts. I talked my misses to the ground immediately and started shouting for them to "cease fire" and that we were "down range", but they couldn't hear us over the constant succession of gun fire that they were raining down on our exposed position on the road. It felt like hours but in reality, was probably only minutes until they exhausted their magazine and paused the firing to reload but we took full advantage of the pause and sprinted to the edge of the clearing of short trees to the relative safety and cover of a rock wall. We had no idea how long the pause would last and as it turned out it only lasted long enough for us to get to better cover and what turned out to be relative safety because as it turned out our new position was beyond the spread of gunfire. When we got home, we called the game warden and York County sheriffs but neither was willing to do anything about the people on the middle rd who were shooting down onto the new rd. How is it that my safety using a public way takes the back seat to someone else's right to shoot a firearm with no regard for safety. That's not how I was taught gun safety

The second time was last summer I border an empty lot on 2 sides and the guy that owns it lives in Massachusetts. Well, he came up for a weekend and was "target practicing" shooting at some cans that he placed on our shared rock wall. He was shooting down onto my land where I pasture my 13 goats and horse, where my garden is, and where I cut trees for my firewood. I happened to be at work, but my misses was home, and she shouted, and he just kept on firing. So, I call the State troopers because York County no longer responds to Parsonfield and the state trooper goes out to talk to him and I get a call back and the state trooper says "its ok, he's shooting into a rather larger pine tree" that's on my land, my tree my property his right supersedes all my rights. He shot at that "tree" down onto my land towards my house from 9am that day till 5pm putting my misses, my 14-year-old stepson, our 13 goats and our horses lives all in jeopardy so he could enjoy his right to own a firearm. At the end of the day, he drives home, we live with the trauma of being "legally" terrorized in our own home.

Thank you for your time.