

Emilia Toth  
Portland  
LD 424

TO: The Honorable Anne Carney  
Representative Kuhn  
Members of the Judiciary Committee

DATE: March 26, 2025

RE: LD 424: An Act Concerning the Concealed Carrying of a Handgun by an Individual Who is 18 Years of Age but Under 21 Years of Age

Good morning, Senator Carney and Representative Kuhn,  
My name is Emilia Toth. I'm a resident of Portland and a staff member with the League of Women Voters Maine. I have been closely following the progress of the Maine's Gun Safety Legislation, and I am testifying in opposition of LD 424. LD 424 would threaten the progress that Maine has made when it comes to gun control. This bill would allow a non-prohibited 18-year-old to carry a concealed handgun without a permit. The current law only allows 21+ individuals to do this. Teenagers would be able to carry a loaded firearm with no safety training and without adult supervision, which is extremely dangerous and could be fatal. Firearms are the leading cause of death for 18–20-year-olds, and gun homicides committed by 18–20-year-olds are thrice the rate of those who are 21 and older.

This bill disregards the safety of Mainers everywhere- especially our young people. This would greatly rollback the progress that has been made since the Lewiston shooting in October of 2023. We need to ensure that such a devastating event will never happen again.

I can only hope that you, our lawmakers, and in many cases, our protectors, will ensure the safety of young people in Maine. I urge you to vote Ought Not to Pass on LD 424.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
Emilia Toth  
Portland, ME  
March 26, 2025