

Dane Courtois
Hiram
LD 1299

Esteemed Maine Judiciary Committee,

I'm Dane Courtois, a Mainer who won't kneel to government bullies, and I'm here to torch LD 1299, An Act to Prohibit the Unsecured Storage of Handguns in Motor Vehicles. This bill is a shameless grab for control, spitting on our Second Amendment rights and mocking the common sense of Maine's free citizens. It's a farce that deserves to be laughed out of this chamber.

Let's cut to the irony at the heart of this nonsense: LD 1299 demands a locked storage device for handguns inside a car that's already locked. A locked car! Are we seriously pretending a thief who smashes a window will tip their hat and walk away because the gun's in a safe? This is bureaucratic lunacy—piling locks on locks like a paranoid hoarder, all to make Mainers jump through hoops for their constitutional birthright. The Second Amendment doesn't stutter: our right to bear arms is non-negotiable, not a puzzle for Augusta to complicate with redundant rules.

The "safety" excuse for this bill is pure fiction. Criminals don't pause to check for lockboxes—they grab and go. A 2020 FBI crime analysis showed stolen guns from vehicles are a drop in the bucket compared to other sources, with zero evidence "unsecured" storage fuels mayhem. But LD 1299 would punish honest folks—a night-shift worker needing quick access to protect herself, a sportsman ready for trouble in the wild, or a parent shielding their kids. Forcing them to fiddle with a safe in a life-or-death moment is reckless, not responsible.

Then there's the hidden tax. Mandating fancy lockboxes slams Mainers who can't spare the cash, making self-defense a rich man's game. Maine's working families don't need another bill squeezing their wallets while government plays nanny. Our gun shops shouldn't be coerced into hawking storage gadgets just to prop up this absurd law.

Libertarians like me hold one truth: government's job is to guard our freedoms, not bury them in red tape. Our founders slung rifles across their shoulders without a bureaucrat's blessing—LD 1299 would have them rolling in their graves. Federal judges are shredding these gun-control stunts nationwide; Maine shouldn't be the odd man out.

Kill LD 1299 now. Reject this ironic, freedom-crushing edict, and let Mainers keep their rights untouched. I stand firm, and I thank you for listening.

Yours in liberty,
Dane Courtois