

Erik Perkins
Mattawamkeag
LD 208

Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Erik Perkins, and I live in Mattawamkeag. I support LD 208 and LD 1230.

My testimony is focused on those two bills, but I also support LD 1062 for similar reasons.

The waiting period has a particularly absurd effect on building custom firearms. Basic gunsmithing is easy and inexpensive, and a lot of people do it themselves. I have custom built nearly all of my firearms from a bare receiver. The receiver is the serialized part which legally constitutes the firearm, so it typically gets transferred through an FFL, and the rest of the parts are assembled a la carte out in the garage. A receiver has no barrel, no bolt, no trigger, no magazine, no stock, no sights, and cannot fire, but is still subject to all the restrictions of a fully assembled and functional firearm, including the waiting period. Last August I spent three days wondering who exactly was being kept safe while I waited to pick up a hunting rifle receiver.

The waiting period is, frankly, humiliating to endure. I spent more time than I should have in California, which has a 10 day waiting period, so I know the drill, but going into Whitney's Outfitters and seeing other Mainers get treated like children made me sick to my stomach. We do not need it, and would be better off without it.

Thank you.