



CITY OF
**SOUTH
PORTLAND**
Executive Department

Scott T. Morelli
City Manager

Joshua J. Reny
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April 30, 2025

Committee on Judiciary
State House, Room 438
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Support of LD 1743

Dear Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and Honorable Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Scott Morelli, and as City Manager for South Portland, I am testifying today on behalf of the City in SUPPORT of LD 1743: ***An Act to Allow Municipalities to Prohibit Firearms Within Their Municipal Buildings and Voting Places and at Their Municipal Public Proceeding.***

There are many reasons why the legislature should support this bill to allow Maine's towns and cities to determine whether firearms should be prohibited in their municipal buildings and voting locations. I am going to focus on one reason: equity.

The Maine capitol is where elected and appointed officials, joined by members of the public, do the business of the State of Maine.

Town and City Halls across the State are where elected and appointed officials, joined by members of the public, do the business of their communities.

The Maine Legislature has determined that for the safety and welfare of themselves, State staff, and the public, firearms are prohibited in the State capitol building.

If the lives and safety of Maine legislators and State staff are important enough to ban firearms in their place of work, then so, too, are the lives and safety of local government officials important enough for firearms to be banned in municipal buildings.

It really is that simple.

I urge you to support LD 1743. Thank you for your consideration.

Scott Morelli
South Portland
LD 1743

It is likely that I will not be able to attend via Zoom to deliver testimony, so I am attaching my written testimony just in case. Thank you.