



# Maine Sheriffs' Association

*"One Team, One Mission"*

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April 3, 2023

## **L.D. 22 – An Act to Impede the Transfer of Firearms to Prohibited Persons**

Senator Beebe-Center, Representative Salisbury, and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice, my name is Kevin Joyce. I am the Sheriff of Cumberland County and here on behalf of the Maine Sheriffs Association.

Maine sheriffs met to discuss LD 22 – An Act to Impede the Transfer of Firearms to Prohibited Persons.

The statistics are daunting. Mass shootings across our country in less that three months totaled 131 as of March 28. But like any problem that seems overwhelming to address, we can and must look for areas on which we can all agree.

Maine's sixteen sheriffs are elected officials representing Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. Many firearms' bills do not offer the potential for all parties to agree. L.D. 22, however, has all sheriffs in agreement that this bill makes good sense.

Passage of L.D. 22 would not have prevented the horrific loss of life that unfolded in Tennessee last week, but our hope is that implementing this law will cause those who plan to transfer ownership of firearms to pause and evaluate the repercussions for failing to ensure the recipient of a firearm is legally qualified to own and/or possess such a firearm.

As we continue to look for areas that all can unite in our positions, Maine sheriffs urge members of this committee to unanimously support the passage of L.D. 22. I welcome any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Kevin Joyce  
Maine Sheriffs' Association