

Committee Report

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 5, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety
to which was referred HB 145,**

**AN ACT relative to physical force in defense of a
person. Having considered the same, report the same
with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Burt

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Bill Number:	HB 145
Title:	relative to physical force in defense of a person.
Date:	February 5, 2021
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The committee was not able to identify a problem that this bill will solve. However, opponents of this bill are very concerned that it will eviscerate long-standing self-defense law which has allowed law abiding residents and visitors alike to use force, including lethal force in self-defense. If enacted into law, this bill will repeal all of RSA 627:4, III which requires a defender to retreat from a violent encounter except in certain specific circumstances where a defender is not required to retreat. Without a "bright line" statute, the courts will be free to rule in any way they see fit. In most cases that will mean judges will rely upon the traditional common law requirement that a defender use any means necessary to avoid a confrontation. Those who are opposed to this bill informed the committee that the courts could very possibly rule that people who are victims of home invaders must leave their home instead of defending it; business owners facing assault might be forced to leave their businesses and surrender to a criminal attack; and people who are being assaulted in public would be forced to flee. Little to no consideration would be given to a person's physical ability to safely retreat. The committee believes that this bill is a solution in search of a problem where no problem exists.

Vote 18-0.

Rep. John Burt
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

HB 145, relative to physical force in defense of a person. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Burt for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The committee was not able to identify a problem that this bill will solve. However, opponents of this bill are very concerned that it will eviscerate long-standing self-defense law which has allowed law abiding residents and visitors alike to use force, including lethal force in self-defense. If enacted into law, this bill will repeal all of RSA 627:4, III which requires a defender to retreat from a violent encounter except in certain specific circumstances where a defender is not required to retreat. Without a "bright line" statute, the courts will be free to rule in any way they see fit. In most cases that will mean judges will rely upon the traditional common law requirement that a defender use any means necessary to avoid a confrontation. Those who are opposed to this bill informed the committee that the courts could very possibly rule that people who are victims of home invaders must leave their home instead of defending it; business owners facing assault might be forced to leave their businesses and surrender to a criminal attack; and people who are being assaulted in public would be forced to flee. Little to no consideration would be given to a person's physical ability to safely retreat. The committee believes that this bill is a solution in search of a problem where no problem exists. **Vote 18-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # 145

BILL TITLE: Relative to physical force in delinquency of a person

DATE: 12/5/2021

LOB ROOM:

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. Welch Seconded by Rep. Gatherbut Vote: 18/0

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

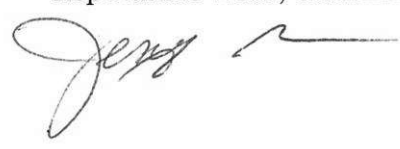
- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____ (if offered)
- Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: ✓ YES NO

Minority Report? majority ✓ Yes No If yes, author, Rep: Burt Motion _____

Respectfully submitted: _____
Rep Natalie Wells, Clerk





2021 SESSION

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill #: 145 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/5/21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Abbas, Daryl A. Chairman	18		
Welch, David A. Vice Chairman	1		
Burt, John A.	2		
Hopper, Gary S.	3		
Green, Dennis E.			
Wallace, Scott	4		
Testerman, Dave			
True, Chris			
Pratt, Kevin M.	5		
Marston, Dick	6		
Rhodes, Jennifer M. Clerk	7		
Harriott-Gathright, Linda C.	8		
Pantelakos, Laura C.	9		
O'Hearne, Andrew S.	10		
Bordenet, John	11		
Meuse, David	12		
Newman, Ray E.	13		
Bouldin, Amanda C.	14		
Conley, Casey M.	15		
Klein-Knight, Nicole	16		
Bradley, Amy	17		

Public Hearing

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 145

BILL TITLE: relative to physical force in defense of a person.

DATE: February 5, 2021

LOB ROOM: Hybrid **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:**

Time Adjourned:

Committee Members: Reps. Abbas, Welch, Rhodes, Burt, Hopper, Green, Wallace, Testerman, True, Pratt, Marston, Harriott-Gathright, Pantelakos, O'Hearne, Bordenet, Meuse, R. Newman, Amanda Bouldin, Conley, Klein-Knight and Bradley

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Abramson

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Abramson – Bill sponsor

- Reasons for presenting bill

Lois Cote – Oppose

- Racial Concern

Bill Kingston – Oppose

Penny Dean – Neutral

- Would prefer an amendment/ITL

JR Hoell – Neutral

- Would prefer an amendment for different language

Alan Rice – NH Gun Owners – Oppose

Joe Hannon – Gun Owners of NH – Oppose

- Needs work

Tracy Hahn-Burkett – Oppose

Q: Rep. Klein-Knight – How many times in your experience has justice not been met because lack of this?

A: Never a time to his knowledge – lack of warrants could have had difficult outcome

Q: Follow up – Could you attempt to collect data so we can know?

A: Definitely need to do better in this area

Q: Rep. Marston – Confused on why this is needed. Giving there are different areas of what this bill is intending

A: This is intended to give authority to federal level agent when they are assisting with a specific arrest

Q: Rep. Hopper – Constitution is clear NH is not to have local authority – do you feel this is a breach?

A: No

Q: Rep. Bordenet – How long does it take to complete training and what are the components?

A: Not sure of ? border agents already have authority

Q: Rep. O'Hearne – Have you had conversations with anyone other than the one federal agent you mentioned?

A: No

Q: Follow up – Do you think you should?

A: Yes, great point

Q: Rep. Conley – Do you have idea of how many “task forces” this would allow?
A: Can’t imagine more than 40-50
Q: Rep. Abbas – If a defendant that was? asked, how would they subpoena the federal agent
A: Same process
Q: Rep. True – Wouldn’t federal be permitted to make citizens arrest?
A: Doesn’t give enough power, may be sued
Q: Rep. O’Hearne – Where is the stance of the federal officer he the person have?
A: Was told he would offer comments
Q: Rep. Pratt – What are the hours of training?
A: Would ne determined by office of safety
Q: Rep. Abbas – Can you give example of a time this happened?
A: No specific situation

Jorden Scippa – Director of Police Standards

- Brings resources that may not otherwise be available

Q: Rep. Hopper – Would this allow only NH federal officers? Or broader than that?
A: Broader – Several agents live in other states
Q: Rep. Harriet-Gathright – If a federal office is here (NH) on vacation – would this allow agent to make arrest?
A: No, 2 step process to make an arrest
Q: Follow up – Was this specific to 1 officer that is requesting this?
A: Not aware of the FBI officer that requested.
-Special agent had concerns
Q: Rep. O’Hearne – How long has this been at the border
A: Not aware
Q: Follow up – Why not then – only now
A: Not aware
Q: Follow up – Do you know of any laws coming in at a federal level to enact this?
A: No – would not be allowed – has to be state
Q: Follow up – How many states have similar bills
A: Not aware

Sophia Biondolil – Oppose

- Does not feel we need more law enforcement

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Jennifer Rhodes, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Testify List for Bill HB145 on 2021- Support: 15 Oppose: 1119 Neutral: 1 Total to Testify: 11

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<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>
Abramson, Max	Max.Abramson@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	Yes (6m)	No
Dean, Penny	penny@pennydean.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (5m)	No
Cote, Lois	lcote06@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Moms Demand Action	Oppose	Yes (4m)	No
Spencer, Louise	kentstusa@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (3m)	No
Rice, Alan	alanrice@gunowners.org	A Lobbyist	Gun Owners of America	Oppose	Yes (3m)	No
Hahn-Burkett, Tracy	tracyrhb@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (3m)	No
Brown, Stacey	staceyfm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (2m)	No
Hannon, Joe	joehannon4nh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	GO-NH	Oppose	Yes (0m)	No
Romero, Dena	dena.romero@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (0m)	No
Korn, Leonard	Lenkorn.md@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (0m)	No
Kingston, Bill	DC9guy@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	Yes (0m)	No
Sullivan, Libby	libbyelizabeth27@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
nowell, cody	nowellcody@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Lambert, Georgina	georginatlambert@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Egan, Ashlynd	Ash.be273@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Searles, Sydney	Sydneylizabeth151@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Davison, Kate	kadavison@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Cuenca, Jasmine	jxc1236@case.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
moore, jesse	jesse.m@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
O'NEIL, Rory	Oneil.a.rory@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Schultz, Tabitha	t.milburn.schultz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Weissberg, Tamsin	tamsinweissberg@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No

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Chase, Michelle	Mechaseee@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Kasik, Lindsey	heavensentme2727@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Everett, Jude	sovsyem@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Pardoe, Mackenzie	Pardoem97@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Eisenberg, Lia	Liaeisenberg24@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	The Black community in my town	Oppose	No	No
Reilly, Caitlyn	caitlynreilly@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Babladelis, Ashley	ash.hatch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Dutzy, Sherry	sherry.dutzy@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Downie, Chase	so.chaseful@rocketmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Warriner, Christina	warriner.christina@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Bresnahan, Megan	meg.bresnahan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Boudreau, Jacqueline	boudreau.jacquelineh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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McFarland, Casey	cmcfarland05@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Hoppa, Molly	mollyhoppa@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Durkee, Peyton	peytondurkee98@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
lee, kelsey	kelsey11226@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
McClary, Alyssa	amccclary15@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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MAZUR, STACY	stacycmazur@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Krysiak, Alexander	arkrysiak11@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Scanlon, Caitlin	caitscanlon8@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
M, Sandra	S-l-robinson@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Oclair, Cherie	coclair93@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Killiany, Laura	lkilliany90@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Moran, Molly	molly5.moran@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Jancsy, Amy	aejancsy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
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Hurley, Maryann	maryanng01@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Campbell, George	Fukkyourdayjob365@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Goodman, Chloc	cmkgoodman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Burridge, Molly	Molly.burridge@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Horne, Christina	feisbean@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Webb, Madelyn	mdywebb@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Gallo, Kathryn	chobanian.kathryn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Huftalen, Cameron	cameron.huftalen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Fishrr, Finn		A Member of the	Myself	Oppose	No	No

	fideliasheraphina@gmail.com	Public				
Fatur, Ashley	ashleyfatur@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Simm, Linnea	lcsimm28@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Farrell, Samantha	srfarrell928@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Beaulieu, Rebecca	rebeccaeb9495@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Lyon, Abigail	Abby.gronberg@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Blais, Jaime	jrbblais3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Phillips, Margery	Margeryphillips@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Worts, Daniel	dan.worts@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No
Martin, Joseph	orangenoglfod@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Plante, Kim	Kimberly.plante@asdnh.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Davis, Shaylyn	Shaylyncdavis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Sequeira, Jessica	Jessica.parker21@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Haslam, Leslie	Lhaslam68@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
McCollom, Amy	aemccollom@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Prygocki-Jeakins, Kimberly	kspj44@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Knowlton-Young, Kimberly	kimberlyknowltonyoung@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
King, James	jamesedwardking17@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Chrissis, Cara	Cara.chrissis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
MacVane, Paula	pjmacvane@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Tresner, James	james.tresner@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Bennett, Olivia	hellodb@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Lovely, Taylor	Lovelytaylor0@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Ford Burley, Nicole	nicole.ford.burley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Manning, Holly	hsrobertson86@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Lacey, Peter	peterlacey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Parisi, Colleen	colleenparisi13@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Mak, Elizabeth	makaroni585@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
DeHaven, Heather	hbdehaven@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Booth, Emma	Ebooth42@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Broyer, Audrey	broyer.a@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
St. Jacques, Nicholas	stjacques.nicholas957@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Demers, Justin	justindemers12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Daigneau, Meghan	meghandaigneau4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No

Duggan, Amy	Aduggan113@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Taylor, Alyssa	alyssataylorpaypal@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Williamson, Amanda	Amandawilliamson@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Shneider, Amanda	amandashneider@brandeis.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Green, Zachary	zachary.zalman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Peterson, Graham	gepeterson95@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Grady, John	jjgrady@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Noni, Olivia	olivia.noni@coebrown.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Kallinich, Kayla	Kaylakall47@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Quitongan, Alex	Alexq098@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Forrestall, Delaney	Delaneyforrestall1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Mackenzie, Eleanor	ecimackenzie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Manning, Talia	talia.manning+politics@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Bradbury, Mattsen	mbradkos@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Teitelman, Leila	lteitelm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Garrett, Briana	briana41986@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Clennon, Rachel	rachelclennon@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Hatcher, Phil	phil.hatcher@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
St.Germain, Kindred	kfstgermain@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Ganley, Mairead	mairead.ganley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Beverlie, Olivia	Livbev11@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Mousseau, Cynthia	cynthia.mousseau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Ippolito, Michael	ippolitomikey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Abbott, Matthew	matthewabbott28@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Coviello, Collin	e.coviello.c@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Williams, Cheryl	cwilliams21032@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Girard, Juliet	Julietisreallycool@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Easler, Colleen	ceasler4400@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
O'Brien, Lily	lilyqqobrien@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Selig, Zoe	zoevf@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Dill, Jennifer	Jennifermdill@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Bishop, Madeline	madss0812@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Auger, Emily	emilyrauger@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No

McGuirk, Zoe	Zocladybug1@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Gibbs, Shanna	shanna.m.gibbs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Drake, William	William1drake1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No
Cote, Emma	emmacote@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Sheehan, Erin	Ekodea55@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Lawrence, Stephanie	s.lawrence311@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Nicholson, Amy	Nicholamy@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Cole, Elizabeth	edcole@wesleyan.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Rasmussen, Matthew	matthewjraz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Smith, Dave	dms737@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Milewski, Kathryn	Klomilewski@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Lenzen, Alex	allenzen13@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Bradbury Koster, Sutton	suttonkbk@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Lavery, Sarah	sarahlavery28@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Browne, Jesse	Flyanderson01@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
George, Isaac	georgek2isaac@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Horwood-Benton, Laura	Laurahb@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Hastings, Ashley	ashley.hastings08@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Creedon, Siobhan	siobhan.a.creedon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Plante, Amy	amyplante3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Plante, Jenny	jennyplante@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Mullen, Grace	graceannemullen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No
Isom, Michelle	michellemolson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No

Testimony

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:31:47 AM
From: [Maya Singh](#)
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:34:58 PM
To: ~[House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: Testimony in opposition to HB 145
Importance: Normal

Dear House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Members,

I write in opposition of HB 145 as a proud Granite Stater and volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. This expansion of this Stand Your Ground law entirely removes the already narrow situations where use of lethal force is **not** justified and undermines the safety of New Hampshire residents.

The literature indicates that Stand Your Ground laws are antithetical to public safety in that they lead to an increase in violence by guns. Additionally they leave open the dangerous possibility of armed vigilantism - a terrifying prospect in today's political landscape. Also they carry a horrifying racist dimension --research shows that when White shooters kill Black victims the resulting homicides are considered justifiable far more frequently than when the shooter is Black and the victim White.

I hope that you will stand up for all Granite Staters in full-throated opposition to HB 145. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Maya L. Singh
140 Thornton Street, Portsmouth NH 03801

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:22:14 AM
From: Keith Thompson
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 10:49:25 AM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: Opposition to HB 145
Importance: Normal

To the Committee-

I am writing in opposition to HB 145. We need to strengthen gun violence prevention laws, and the majority of NH citizens agree. NH's "Stand Your Ground" laws are already some of the most lax in the nation, they must not be expanded.

Please vote in opposition to this bill.

Sincerely,

Keith F Thompson

Nashua, NH

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:20 PM

From: [Anne Hunnewell](#)

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:21:18 PM

To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)

Subject: HB 145

Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

I am also opposed to this bill for the following reasons.

We have the "Stand Your Ground" law already.

It is another example of expanding the use of deadly force!

We should be passing laws and funding groups that support safe alternatives to de escalating situations.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Anne Hunnewell
Holderness, NH

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:19 PM
From: [Alex](#)
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 9:14:24 PM
To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: HB145 Support
Importance: Normal

Honorable Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

Please support HB145, which removes certain instances where using deadly force to defend oneself or another person is not legally justifiable.

Part of being a free human is having the right to use self-defense in any way deemed necessary to protect oneself, others, or property. We should not have to debate this basic natural right with our representatives. Please support this bill and repeal RSA 627,4 III.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Mennella
17 Granite St., Hooksett NH 03106
646-610-9858

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:31:47 AM
From: [Alex](#)
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 9:14:24 PM
To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: HB145 Support
Importance: Normal

Honorable Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

Please support HB145, which removes certain instances where using deadly force to defend oneself or another person is not legally justifiable.

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Sincerely,

Alexandra Mennella
17 Granite St., Hooksett NH 03106
646-610-9858

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:22:32 AM

From: [Carisa Corrow](#)

Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 7:47:19 AM

To: ~[House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)

Subject: Public Comment HB 81, 145, 197

Importance: Normal

Good Morning,

I am unable to attend your public committee meeting today. I've signed in and am opposed to HB 81, HB 145 and HB 197. My opposition comes from a place of concern for human life. These bills in essence, allow one citizen to become judge, jury and executioner all within a matter of moments. Unfortunately, we have many hateful people in our society that will actively use laws with language such as HB 81, HB 145, and HB 197 to justify their actions; perpetrators of domestic violence, vigilantes and white supremacists will see a legal way to kill other human beings. These laws will also feed into our world of instant gratification, over-hyped reactions, and increased road rage incidents. They are dangerous to enact, not just for individuals who may be killed because of them and their families, but for our society.

Thank you,
Carisa Corrow
Penacook

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:22:14 AM

From: [Lois Cote](#)

Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:34:43 PM

To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)

Subject: FW: Testimony HB 145 from Lois Cote

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

[HB145 Cote.docx](#) 

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:24:54 AM
From: [Dina Solomon](#)
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 6:58:36 AM
To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: Opposition to HB 81, HB 145, HB 197
Importance: Normal

To The Honorable Members of the NH House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee:

I am writing to discuss my opposition to a set of bills that will be before you for consideration this coming Friday, February 5th, 2021. HB 81, HB 197, and HB 145 expand "Stand Your Ground" laws in New Hampshire, and as a NH citizen and a mental health professional, I am strongly opposed to this kind of legislation and to these bills specifically. These bills respectively expand the legal use of deadly force for citizens, expand when and where deadly force could be used by citizens, and they remove the obligation of a citizen to retreat or de-escalate a situation or use a safe alternative means to violence. We have seen this type of legislation exonerate a grown adult (George Zimmerman) from the murder of a child (Trayvon Martin). This legislation could serve to protect people who would do harm to unarmed protestors, which could leave the expression of free speech up to the whims of extremists. This legislation encourages vigilantism, and it emboldens people to shoot first and ask questions later. As a mental health professional, I know that people consistently misread threat. I am deeply concerned that people who are often misread as threatening, such as people of color and the mentally ill, would be especially vulnerable to those who might be emboldened by this legislation to take matters into their own hands, and it would leave these vulnerable populations even more vulnerable than they already are and put them in grave danger. We have seen across the country that even law enforcement officials who have training in reading what is threatening and what is not can easily misread threat on the job. Why would we gamble on the general public who are not trained in reading threat to be able to do so accurately? I urge you to consider this information based in my professional practice strongly.

Sincerely,

Dina L. Solomon, LICSW

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:24:55 AM
From: [Bridget Goerke](#)
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:48:25 PM
To: ~[House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: Testimony: I Oppose HB 197, 81 & 145
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing as a concerned citizen for my New Hampshire community of color who feels threatened by these new bills being brought forth into the 2021 session, similar to the one that killed Trayvon Martin, ones that would justify killing someone at will, should you perceive them to be a threat.

These bills are a grotesque use of power against citizens and does not emphasize the importance of using de-escalation techniques or other safe alternatives. HB 197 could potentially be used to justify shooting at unarmed protestors, whom have the right to organize and protest.

There should be no LAW that deems it okay for another human being to make the decision to kill another human being. That is purely subjective and could lead to innocent lives being taken, just like so many have already.

I strongly oppose these bills and suggest we start forming communities of care, rather than violence towards one another.

Thank you,
Bridget Goerke

Merrimac, Ma

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:31:47 AM

From: [Anne Hunnewell](#)

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:21:18 PM

To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)

Subject: HB 145

Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the Criminal Justice Committee,

I am also opposed to this bill for the following reasons.

We have the "Stand Your Ground" law already.

It is another example of expanding the use of deadly force!

We should be passing laws and funding groups that support safe alternatives to de escalating situations.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Anne Hunnewell
Holderness, NH

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:19 PM
From: Jay Newton
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 1:45:14 PM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: HB 145, Oppose, Constituent in Gilford, NH
Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

I oppose HB 81, 197, and 145.

The second amendment guarantees the right to bear arms and we use that as an excuse to avoid regulating firearms when in fact they are very dangerous and while they can be used for competitive sport, they are mostly designed to kill. These laws use fear in an argument to say whenever any gun owner, no training required, feels threatened in any way, they may fire away with a device which has been carefully engineered to do deadly damage to animal (humans are animals) tissue.

We don't allow highly trained police and military personnel to use deadly force without reviewing all available options. A citizen without that training is going to make fear driven mistakes which could be possibly be avoided if they knew going into a situation that they could go to jail if they act inappropriately. These laws take away that safeguard.

In contrast we also have the constitutional right to vote. NH legislators are currently pushing several bills that will make it more difficult to vote, reducing ways to enjoy that right when there is no proof that voter voter fraud exists in any meaningful way. They say the threat of punishment will make people think twice about committing voter fraud. Easily available evidence shows that violent gun deaths occur 10,000 more times annually in the United States than individual cases of voter fraud.

What should we be making it easier to do?

Kind regards,

Jay Newton
128 Cotton Hill Road
Gilford, NH 03249
jjnewt@gmail.com
508 254 1286

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:19 PM
From: [Keith Thompson](#)
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 10:49:25 AM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: Opposition to HB 145
Importance: Normal

To the Committee-

I am writing in opposition to HB 145. We need to strengthen gun violence prevention laws, and the majority of NH citizens agree. NH's "Stand Your Ground" laws are already some of the most lax in the nation, they must not be expanded.

Please vote in opposition to this bill.

Sincerely,

Keith F Thompson
Nashua, NH

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:31:47 AM

From: Leonard Korn

Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:31:24 PM

To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Cc: Michael Padmore; James Potter; Patrick A. Ho

Subject: Testimony on HB 81, HB 197 and HB 145

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

[Testimony on HB 81.docx](#) 


Dear House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee members,

I am enclosing a copy of my testimony against HB 81, HB 197 and HB 145 that will be heard in Committee on February 5, 2021. I plan on presenting this testimony for your attention on 2/5/21.


Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours truly,

Leonard Korn MD
lenkorn.md@gmail.com

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:19 PM
From: [Lois Cote](#)
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:34:43 PM
To: [~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: FW: Testimony HB 145 from Lois Cote
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
[HB145 Cote.docx](#) 

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:19 PM
From: Leonard Korn
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:31:24 PM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Cc: Michael Padmore; James Potter; Patrick A. Ho
Subject: Testimony on HB 81, HB 197 and HB 145
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
[Testimony on HB 81.docx](#) 

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Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours truly,

Leonard Korn MD
lenkorn.md@gmail.com

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:22:32 AM
From: melissabernardin7@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 11:40:21 AM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: HB 145, HB 197, HB 81 - OPPOSE
Importance: Normal

February 5, 2021

To: Chair Rep. Abbas and House Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee members
From: Melissa Bernardin, Concord
Re: HB 145, HB 197, HB 81 – OPPOSE

Dear Committee:

I urge you to vote ITL on HB 145, HB 197, and HB 81. These bills are an attack on our constitutional rights and they are racist.

I am an almost lifelong resident of NH, a homeowner and a taxpayer. I am active in civic life and share my pride in making our state and country a better place sometimes through standing with others in public with signs, sometimes marching and chanting. I've never seen violence initiated by protestors and rallygoers that I associate with in NH. That doesn't mean it never happens –but it almost never happens.

There is a reason why free speech and the right to assemble is the FIRST AMENDMENT to our United States Constitution. NUMBER 1. **These “Kill at Will” bills would effectively take away our First Amendment rights** because any person in New Hampshire could say “I felt intimidated” by a gathering of individuals and to commit homicide. To take a life. This is horrifying to me.

These bills are also an attack on freedom of movement and freedom to travel. A racist could say they felt threatened by a person with a different skin tone who was walking through their neighborhood or driving a car down their street. **These “Kill at Will” bills are racist.**

Please vote them down.

Sincerely,

Melissa Bernardin
Concord

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:22:32 AM
From: [Melissa Hinebauch](#)
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 11:22:57 AM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: Please OPPOSE HB 145, HB 197, HB 81
Importance: Normal

Dear Chair Abbas and House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee members,

Please oppose HB 145, HB 197, and HB 81.

I have a son with autism, and I fear for his life given all the armed members of our state. What if my child mistakenly "threatened" a person simply because he couldn't hear or understand someone? Is it ok to shoot a young man with autism just because he has trouble communicating?

Please keep people like my son safe and oppose HB 145, HB 197, and HB 81. Thank you.

Sincerely,

M. Hinebauch
Concord, NH 03301
6032244866

Archived: Friday, February 12, 2021 4:26:19 PM
From: [Maya Singh](#)
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:34:58 PM
To: ~[House Criminal Justice and Public Safety](#)
Subject: Testimony in opposition to HB 145
Importance: Normal

Dear House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Members,

I write in opposition of HB 145 as a proud Granite Stater and volunteer with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. This expansion of this Stand Your Ground law entirely removes the already narrow situations where use of lethal force is **not** justified and undermines the safety of New Hampshire residents.

The literature indicates that Stand Your Ground laws are antithetical to public safety in that they lead to an increase in violence by guns. Additionally they leave open the dangerous possibility of armed vigilantism - a terrifying prospect in today's political landscape. Also they carry a horrifying racist dimension --research shows that when White shooters kill Black victims the resulting homicides are considered justifiable far more frequently than when the shooter is Black and the victim White.

I hope that you will stand up for all Granite Staters in full-throated opposition to HB 145. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Maya L. Singh
140 Thornton Street, Portsmouth NH 03801

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From: Jay Newton
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 1:45:14 PM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: HB 145, Oppose, Constituent in Gilford, NH
Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

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We don't allow highly trained police and military personnel to use deadly force without reviewing all available options. A citizen without that training is going to make fear driven mistakes which could be possibly be avoided if they knew going into a situation that they could go to jail if they act inappropriately. These laws take away that safeguard.

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What should we be making it easier to do?

Kind regards,

Jay Newton
128 Cotton Hill Road
Gilford, NH 03249
jjnewt@gmail.com
508 254 1286

Archived: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:22:32 AM
From: Pam Hanson
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 10:46:43 AM
To: ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety
Subject: HBs 81, 197, and 145
Importance: Normal

To the Members of the NH House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee:

I wish to express my complete opposition to HB 81, HB 197, and HB 145.
I am a pacifist. I do not believe that the use of violence is the first or only choice available to us to resolve conflict.

HB 81

Consider this situation: an individual approaches a private residence to solicit census information, or for a town survey, or to campaign for a political candidate. The resident doesn't like the individual for whatever reason and shoots the individual.

If there is no witness to the murder, this bill, if enacted as law, would completely block the prosecution of the resident. Such protection under the law is criminal.

HB 197 & HB 145

"Why do we kill people who kill people in order to teach people not to kill people?"

Less violence, less opportunity for violence, less justification of violence, less tacit acceptance of violence is what we need at every level of society.

If violence and guns could solve our political, social, economic, moral, and personal issues we would be living in paradise right now. We have more guns per capita than any other nation in the world. It is ludicrous.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinions.

There are a lot of us in NH who do not own guns, do not want guns in our towns and in our state. If you only listen to the NRA and the 2nd Amendment activists, you only hear one side of the story.

Pamela R. Hanson



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Bill as
Introduced

HB 145 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0281
04/05

HOUSE BILL **145**

AN ACT relative to physical force in defense of a person.

SPONSORS: Rep. Abramson, Rock. 37

COMMITTEE: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

ANALYSIS

This bill removes certain instances where using deadly force to defend oneself or another person is not legally justifiable.

.....

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to physical force in defense of a person.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

- 1 1 Repeal. RSA 627:4, III, relative to certain instances in which the use of deadly force in
- 2 defense of oneself or another person is not legally justifiable, is repealed.
- 3 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.