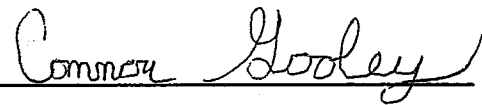


Adults responsible for supervising kids on Maine Youth Bear Day should be allowed to carry a firearm because:

- 1) Bears are not like deer. They can be dangerous if they are wounded.
- 2) If kids get nervous, they won't be able to protect themselves or the adult.
- 3) If the bear charges, the youth hunter will not know what to do.
- 4) Tree stands are not safe because bears climb trees.
- 5) Tree stands are also difficult to shoot from. Kids don't have the experience.
- 6) Ground blinds are really not safe, because the bear is on your level.
- 7) I don't want my dad to get arrested for carrying a gun for protection for us.
- 8) I feel safer when I know my dad can back me up.

These are just some of the reasons why I think this would benefit Maine hunters in general. I was disappointed last August when I was told that I'm not allowed to go because it's not safe. My grandfather who comes from a big hunting family told me it's not safe. When I heard him say this, I knew it wasn't. Thank you for your attention to this important matter, it is greatly appreciated.


Connor Gooley