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Date: (Filing No. H-)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1006, L.D. 1561, “An Act to Restore Firearm Rights and Hunting Privileges to Persons Previously Convicted of Certain Nonviolent Felony Crimes”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Public Safety to Convene a Stakeholder Group to Develop a Process to Allow Prohibited Persons to Have Their Full Civil Rights Related to Firearms Restored'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Stakeholder group. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Public Safety shall convene a stakeholder group to develop a process by which persons prohibited from owning, possessing or having under their control a firearm pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 393 can petition to have their full civil rights related to firearms restored. The commissioner shall invite, at a minimum, the participation in the stakeholder group of the following:

- 1. The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
- 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or the chief justice's designee;
- 3. A representative of the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence;
- 4. An expert in the field of mental and behavioral health; and
- 5. A representative of the Maine Prosecutors Association.

The process for restoring civil rights related to firearms developed by the stakeholder group must allow prohibited persons to file a petition with an appropriate government body or agency to have their full civil rights related to firearms restored. This process must emphasize public safety and must be practical and understandable.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 30, 2025, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters a report describing the process

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 developed by the stakeholder group in section 1 and any potential barriers to implementing
2 the process and include any recommended legislation. After reviewing the report, the
3 committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.'

4 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
5 number to read consecutively.

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the bill to a
8 resolve and changes the title. It requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to convene a
9 stakeholder group to develop a process allowing persons prohibited from owning,
10 possessing or having under their control a firearm under Maine law the ability to petition
11 an appropriate government body or agency to have their full civil rights related to firearms
12 restored. The stakeholder group consists, at a minimum, of the Attorney General or the
13 Attorney General's designee, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or the chief
14 justice's designee, a representative of the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, an
15 expert in the field of mental and behavioral health and a representative of the Maine
16 Prosecutors Association. The commissioner is required to submit by January 30, 2025 a
17 report describing the process developed by the stakeholder group, describing any potential
18 barriers to implementation and including any recommended legislation to the joint standing
19 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety
20 matters. The committee may report out legislation related to the report to the 132nd
21 Legislature in 2025.

22 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

23 **(See attached)**