

Brian Zimmerman
Topsham
LD 1696

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

This bill is so vague and non-specific that it cannot be allowed to pass into law. It also redundant and places an unfair burden on private manufacturers, including Maine companies like Windham Weaponry. Proposed requirements for manufacturers outlined in the bill are already covered during the purchase of firearms by the FBI and the ATF. Furthermore, they use terms seemingly without understanding their definitions. What is "abnormally dangerous"? What makes a gun "assaultive" or "self-defense" oriented? Choosing to commit a crime with a firearm is a decision that the user makes, not the inanimate object. There are federal and state laws and regulations already on the books that are not being enforced which can prevent crimes, including mass shootings. Government efforts need to concentrate on those avenues while individuals who actually understand firearms, the Constitution, the firearm industry, crime, and gun crime work together to reduce gun violence. Half-baked bills full of useless redundancy written by legislators that don't even understand what they are writing is not the way forward.

This bill is an emotionally driven piece of legislation written by someone who does not use firearms, does not understand firearms, and does not support the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution. Passing bills written by ignorant legislators only degrades rule of law. The Maine State Legislature needs to hold itself to a higher standard and not let itself fall to the disinformative and divided political paradigm we see across mainstream media and social media today. We Mainers are better than that.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Brian Zimmerman