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LD 1696

My name is Dr R Craig Findlay, Yarmouth Maine. I am testifying AGAINST LD1696. The writers of this bill have now changed the title of this bill to "Civil Liability for the Illegal Sale or Marketing of Firearms-Related Products". The obvious intent is to establish a system of lawfare to harass legal businesses that market inanimate objects that the writers do not like. This is merely an additional layer of cloudy law above the sufficient law that already exists for a civil liability case. I say cloudy because the proposed law uses terminology that is ill-defined, such a "firearm-related products" as one example. What does this mean? Would a firearms retailer be potentially sued for the sale of a target or a holster, or an auto dealer for the car that a shooter drives to his place of hunting in? Rather than taking a civil case which is designed to be considered in court, it would place it in a system to be judged by an appointed politician, with an established fine schedule to make it a process that can be abused by personal bias rather than adjudicating in the established legal system with rights of appeal. The most concerning thing is that once again, the usual anti-second amendment legislators have proposed statutes that totally miss the point. Instead of harassing legal entities, the state should be proposing legislation to address the real problem. Mental illness.