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LD 1109

Public Comment Opposing LD 1109

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on LD 1109, “An Act to Reduce Gun Violence Casualties in Maine by Prohibiting the Possession of Large-capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices.”

I respectfully urge you to oppose this bill. Here are some reasons and quotes taken directly from Mainers I have communicated with online:

Maine Is Safe—This Bill Is a Solution in Search of a Problem

Maine is consistently ranked among the safest states in the nation when it comes to gun violence. As one Mainer recently wrote:

"We're the 2nd safest state in the country, there's no cause to be trampling over the 2nd Amendment rights of the state to solve a non-existent problem."

The tragic Lewiston shooting was not due to a lack of laws—it was the result of institutional failure to enforce the ones we already have. Rather than empowering those institutions to work better, LD 1109 punishes responsible Mainers who have done nothing wrong.

△□ LD 1109 Turns Peaceful Citizens Into Criminals

This bill does not offer true grandfathering. Instead, it gives Mainers 180 days to surrender or register their lawfully owned magazines—millions of which are standard across the country.

“It’s not grandfathering if you have to surrender or register.”

“This isn’t about public safety—it’s about creating paperwork felons.”

Once the grace period ends, a common self-defense tool becomes a crime, and any Mainers found in possession—perhaps after defending their life—could face prosecution.

As one commenter explained:

“If a cop finds a non-compliant magazine, you're a felon.”

“That means you lose your gun rights—possibly after using it to save your own life.”

□ Enforcement Is Unclear, But Consequences Are Severe

There’s no funding for enforcement in the bill, no clarity on how compliance will be tracked, and no understanding of how the courts will handle inevitable legal challenges.

“Line item in the budget to enforce this? \$0.00.”

“This law exists for one reason: to issue press releases saying 'we're making the state safer.'”

♣□ This Law Won’t Survive Constitutional Review

Magazines that hold more than 10 rounds are in common use and are standard on most modern handguns and rifles. The Supreme Court's Bruen and Heller decisions make it clear that bans on arms in common use for lawful purposes are unconstitutional.

“15 round magazines come stock with Glocks—this isn’t high-capacity, it’s standard capacity.”

“This is ripe for a Bruen challenge.”

□ Mainers See a Copy-Paste Agenda from Out-of-State Activists

Many have noticed that this bill closely mirrors laws passed in places like Oregon, Colorado, and Rhode Island.

As one user from the r/liberalgunowners Reddit community put it:

“LD 1109 is bad. No grandfathering, registration required for compliance, makes

possession a crime, and could be used as a pretext for additional charges in any situation where you're already dealing with the legal system."

Even liberal gun owners are alarmed at the bill's overreach and the loss of civil liberties it represents.

☐ Self-Defense Matters—Especially Now

With growing concerns about national instability, government overreach, political violence, and yes—even the return of authoritarian figures like Donald Trump, many citizens—left, right, and center—are increasingly aware that the right to defend oneself is essential.

"We have a fascist in the White House who calls himself a king—and this is what lawmakers are spending their time on?"

"This is when Mainers need the right to defend themselves more than ever."

In times of uncertainty, civil liberties—including the right to keep and bear arms—must be protected, not stripped away. A ten-round limit does not stop those who seek to do harm, but it absolutely limits a lawful citizen's ability to respond to threats—especially in rural areas where police response may take time.

☐ We Can Do Better

Instead of blanket bans, let's focus on enforcing existing laws, strengthening mental health systems, and improving crisis intervention. Let's invest in solutions that work, not symbolic laws that create new criminals and solve no real problems.

I urge you to vote NO on LD 1109 and stand with the people of Maine—rural, urban, liberal, conservative, and everything in between—who simply want to exercise their rights safely, responsibly, and freely.