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March 23, 2025

Testimony in Support of LD 677 “An Act to Update the Statutory Definition of “Machine Gun” and Prohibit Possession of a Rapid-fire Device”

To: Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and Members of the Committee,

I write because too many lives have been lost to gun violence. I am in strong support of LD 677 because it will save lives and it does not infringe upon the Second Amendment. There is only one use for these devices, to be attached to a firearm for automatic, rapid fire purposes. They turn guns into machine guns. My husband, sons, and grandchildren all hunt and I prepare what is harvested for our meals. We are grateful for the food provided. There is no hunting purpose consistent with Maine’s long standing hunting traditions for these sorts of devices to be used on any firearm.

The data is clear, rapid fire devices such as bump stocks, and machine gun conversions (i.e., autosears and switches) have been used in mass shootings and other incidents of gun violence across the country and in New England (United States Drug Enforcement Administration and Everytown for Gun Safety).

Please address the sale and possession of these devices before they become attached and thus closer to being used for gun violence. Federal law is not enough as it does not cover all devices and over 20 states have passed similar laws (Maine Gun Safety Coalition). Help our law enforcement and prosecutors in their efforts to keep our communities safe **by supporting LD 677.**

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of LD 677 in your efforts to ensure the safety of all people in Maine.

Respectfully submitted,
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