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LD 1109

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03/24/2025

House Judiciary Committee
Maine State Legislature
Augusta, ME

Subject: STRONG OPPOSITION to LD 1109 – A Direct Attack on Our
Constitutional Rights

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my absolute opposition to LD 1109, the latest attempt to strip law-abiding Mainers of their constitutional rights under the false pretense of “reducing gun violence.” Let’s be clear: this bill does nothing to stop criminals, nothing to prevent violence, and everything to infringe on the freedoms of responsible citizens.

LD 1109 is an Unconstitutional Power Grab

The Second Amendment does not grant the government permission to decide how many rounds a law-abiding citizen can carry for self-defense. The Supreme Court has reaffirmed that commonly used firearms and their components are protected under the Constitution. Standard-capacity magazines—which this bill demonizes as “large-capacity”—are exactly that: STANDARD. Millions of law-abiding Americans, including Mainers, own them for self-defense, sporting, and hunting.

Yet, LD 1109 seeks to turn everyday gun owners into criminals overnight. Meanwhile, actual criminals could not care less about your restrictions. They will continue to obtain and use high-capacity magazines illegally—leaving law-abiding citizens defenseless against armed threats.

Gun Control Laws Like This DO NOT WORK—Here’s the Proof

Study after study has shown that bans on so-called “large-capacity magazines” have no measurable impact on gun violence. The nonpartisan RAND Corporation found that the evidence supporting magazine bans is weak and inconclusive (rand.org). Even a Congressional study admitted that magazine bans show no clear effect on violent crime (congress.gov).

So why push this nonsense? Because the real goal isn’t safety—it’s control.

This Bill Puts Mainers at Risk

Maine is one of the safest states in the nation, and that’s because we respect our gun rights. If LD 1109 passes, law-abiding citizens will have fewer rounds to defend themselves and their families, while criminals will still have access to whatever they want. Are you willing to tell a mother facing multiple intruders in her home that she should have “just reloaded”?

And let’s not forget: This is just the beginning. First, they come for your magazines, then they come for your firearms. We’ve seen this playbook before, and we know exactly where it leads.

Real Solutions—Not Political Theater

Instead of punishing responsible gun owners, why not focus on real solutions?

- Tougher penalties for violent criminals—not gun owners.
- More resources for law enforcement to crack down on illegal weapons trafficking.
- Improved mental health services to address the root causes of violence.

LD 1109 is nothing but a reckless, unconstitutional attack on Mainers' rights. I urge you to reject this blatant government overreach and instead focus on policies that actually make Maine safer—without trampling on our freedoms.

Sincerely,
Richard J Ples