Richard J Ples Mt Vernon LD 1126

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House Judiciary Committee Maine State Legislature Augusta, ME

Subject: Strong Opposition to LD 1126 – An Unnecessary Infringement on Second Amendment Rights

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to LD 1126, "An Act Requiring Serial Numbers on Firearms and Prohibiting Undetectable Firearms." This proposed legislation represents yet another misguided attempt to erode the constitutional rights of law-abiding Mainers under the guise of enhancing public safety.

The "Ghost Gun" Hysteria is a Lie

The left's manufactured panic over so-called "ghost guns" is nothing more than a scare tactic. The reality? Criminals are not building their own firearms. The vast majority of guns used in crimes are either stolen or acquired illegally—not home-assembled. Even the Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that fewer than 1.3% of criminals obtain firearms through self-assembly. (bjs.ojp.gov)

So why the obsession with serial numbers? Because the end goal isn't crime prevention—it's government tracking. They want every gun in a database so future bans and confiscations are easier to enforce. We've seen this playbook before, and we're not falling for it.

## Serial Numbers Do NOTHING to Prevent Crime

The idea that slapping a serial number on every gun will stop violence is pure fantasy. Criminals don't obey gun laws—that's why they're criminals. A defaced serial number takes seconds to remove, and illegal gun markets don't care about paperwork. Even the ATF admits that serial numbers rarely help solve crimes. (atf.gov)

This bill will do nothing but create more bureaucracy and punish the very people who follow the law. It's an unconstitutional burden on responsible gun owners while doing zero to stop actual criminals.

The "Undetectable Firearm" Myth

Let's be clear: There is no such thing as an undetectable firearm! The federal Undetectable Firearms Act of 1988 already bans any firearm that cannot be picked up by a metal detector. Every single functioning gun today contains enough metal to be detected. This bill is built on fear-mongering, not facts.

So what's the real purpose here? It's another step toward banning private gun ownership outright. First, they go after homemade guns, then "high-capacity" magazines, then semi-automatics—until Mainers are left with nothing but government-approved, registered weapons under lock and key.

Stop Wasting Time and Target Real Criminals

If Maine legislators actually cared about reducing gun violence, they'd go after real criminals, not responsible citizens. Instead of this useless gun control push, try:

- •Harsh penalties for gun crimes—stop letting violent offenders walk free.
- •Supporting law enforcement—instead of demonizing police and tying their hands
- •Expanding mental health resources—because criminals don't follow magazine bans, but proper intervention can prevent violence.

LD 1126 is nothing but another step toward backdoor gun registration, criminalizing law-abiding Mainers, and laying the groundwork for future confiscation.

I strongly urge you to reject this bill and stand up for the rights of Maine citizens! We are watching, we will remember, and we will not comply with unconstitutional overreach.

Sincerely,

Richard J Ples