Deanna Korey Westbrook LD 677 March 24, 2025

Re: LD 677: "An Act to Update the Statutory Definition of "Machine Gun" and Prohibit Possession of a Rapid-fire Device"

Dear Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

I am Deanna Korey of Westbrook, writing in SUPPORT of LD 677.

By 1934, American society believed that machine guns were "the paramount example of peacetime barbarism." But today, any semiautomatic weapon can be easily converted into a machine gun by the addition of various devices that allow hundreds of rounds to be fired within a minute. (Examples include auto sears, bump stocks, binary triggers). The sole purpose of modifying a firearm with these devices is to inflict maximum injury and fatalities in the shortest span of time, which is why they're favored in mass shootings. (E.g. the 2022 Uvalde Elementary School, and 2017 Las Vegas music festival).

Law enforcement is finding an overwhelming increase in machine gun conversion devices because many can be cheaply ordered from China, or 3-D printed at home, with the blueprints readily shared online. So the rapid-fire lethality of firearms continues to spread apace, as conversion devices become more easily available, and ingenious at evading common sense restrictions and enforcement.

Maine needs LD 677, its own state-level law empowering police and state prosecutors to manage the dangerous sale and proliferation of these machine gun conversion devices.

I urge you to vote OUGHT TO PASS. Thank you.

Deanna Korey