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LD 1109

I'm writing this testimony to oppose LD1109 on the grounds that it would make criminals out of countless ordinary Mainers for owning something that's legal in most other states. This proposed law provides no grandfather clause and no option for buy-back, leaving Maine gun owners the choice of either surrendering the majority of their owned magazines, or becoming criminals.

I also take issue with the language of this bill, particularly the term "large-capacity" as it relates to magazines. It would be more accurate to say that this bill bans "standard capacity" magazines, and that if it were to pass, only "reduced capacity" magazines would be legal. Every firearm I've ever purchased in the state of Maine came standard with a magazine that would be illegal under this new law. The sheer scale of magazines that would be banned by this bill is astounding, and would undoubtedly affect the vast majority of gun owners in Maine.

Ultimately, I believe this bill would have a very strong negative impact on law-abiding gun owners in Maine, and I think it would do very little to impact gun violence in our state. I commend the intentions of those who would seek to reduce gun violence through legislation, but I firmly believe this is an ineffective and dangerous way to do so.