

# Maine Chapter

INCORPORATED IN MAINE

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## Executive Committee

President

Brian Youth, MD, FAAP

Vice President

Anne Coates, MD, FAAP

Treasurer

Christopher Motyl, DO, FAAP

Secretary

Genevieve Whiting, MD, FAAP

Immediate Past President

Laura Blaisdell, MD, MPH, FAAP

## Board of Directors

Mahmuda Ahmed, MD, FAAP

Joseph Anderson, DO, FAAP

Rebecca Brakeley, MD, FAAP

Amy Buczkowski, MD, FAAP

Melissa Burch, MD, FAAP

Adrienne Carmack, MD, FAAP

Gabriel Civiello, MD, FAAP

Alyssa Goodwin, MD, FAAP

Allison Grover, MD\*

Deborah Q. Hagler, MD, MPH, FAAP

Dan Hale, MD, FAAP

Jennifer Jewell, MD, MS, FAAP

Stephanie Joy, MD, FAAP

Emily Keller, MD, FAAP

Alton Kremer, MD, PhD, FAAP

Michele LaBotz, MD, FAAP

Lawrence Losey, MD, FAAP

Valerie O'Hara, DO, FAAP

Calvin Schaffer, MD\*

Austin Steward\*\*

Jeffrey Stone, DO, FAAP

Andrea Tracy, MD, FAAP

Lara Walsh, MD, FAAP

Jyotika Vallurupalli\*\*

Margaret Zamboni, DO, FAAP

\*Resident Board Representatives

\*\*Medical Student Representatives

## Staff

Dee Kerry, BS

Executive Director

Emily Belanger, RN, BSN

Education & Membership Manager

Madeleine DesFosses, BA

Public Health & Advocacy Manager

Tiffany Harrington, MBA

Development Director

30 Association Drive, Box 190

Manchester, ME 04351

office: 207-622-3374

[www.maineaap.org](http://www.maineaap.org)

March 25, 2025

## Subject: LD 1126: An Act Requiring Serial Numbers on Firearms and Prohibiting Undetectable Firearms

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the Committee on Judiciary, my name is Joe Anderson. I am a resident of Portland and I serve on the board of the Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. I work as a Pediatric Hospitalist in Lewiston, and in the aftermath of the 2023 mass shooting, I also founded the group Maine Providers for Gun Safety. I am writing today to express our support for LD 1126. **We ask that you vote Ought to Pass on this bill.**

The American Academy of Pediatrics supports legislation aimed at regulating “ghost guns”, which are unserialized firearms built from kits or other matching components. These firearms are increasingly implicated in criminal activity, allowing individuals who would not otherwise be able to pass a background check to evade that process and build their own weapon from untraceable kits and components.

The American Academy of Pediatrics signed onto an amicus brief<sup>1</sup> with several other national medical organizations supporting the ATF’s attempt to regulate ghost guns, which in part states the following:

*“Amici’s members include many individuals who grew up with and value the recreational use of firearms or choose to own a firearm for self-defense. But amici and their members share the strong conviction, informed by their healthcare work and research, that unregistered firearms have no place in a civilized society. The Rule does not impose any burden on responsible, law-abiding firearm owners.”*

Although the court seemed inclined to uphold the ATF’s ability to regulate ghost guns, given [President Trump’s executive action released on 2/7/25](#), we have concerns that the current administration could choose to rollback regulations of ghost guns regardless of the court’s decision. This bill gives Maine the opportunity to protect its citizens from criminals should this occur.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I apologize for not being able to testify in person and would be happy to attend the work session if you would appreciate our input.

Sincerely,

Joe Anderson, DO, FAAP

Advocacy Chair, Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
Founder, Maine Providers for Gun Safety

<sup>1</sup> Brief for American Medical Association, Texas Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Emergency Physicians, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American College of Preventive Medicine, and the American Geriatrics Society as Amicus Curiae, Merrick B Garland, Attorney General, et al., v. Jennifer VanDerStok, et al. (No. 23-852)

[http://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-852/316196/20240702124942043\\_23-852%20Printer%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf](http://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-852/316196/20240702124942043_23-852%20Printer%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf)