

Judiciary Committee Members,

I am writing you to day in opposition to LD 1109, a bill regarding the possession of *standard* capacity magazines. The attempt at reducing the amount of ammunition a magazine can hold will not save lives despite how this bill is being framed. If anything it is more probable to do the complete opposite as you are limiting an individual from the ability to protect themselves with whatever means necessary.

Regarding mass shootings because that is what this bill I assume is supposed to prevent, vast majority of mass shootings from 1982-2024 according to Statista has been from handguns, which accounts for 78% of mass shootings. (*Statista Research Department, 2018*) While there are no doubt extended magazines for handguns, the standard for handgun magazine is only 10 rounds, which is what this bill is trying to limit individuals to.

So, my question is if the standard magazine for handguns is already 10 rounds per magazine and they are widely used in mass shootings, then what will this bill accomplish? The answer is, nothing. This bill simply will turn currently law abiding citizens into criminals.

I am greatly concerned that our rights as Mainers to keep and bear arms has been under fire for the better part of twenty years, essentially my entire adult life. Whether it be by numerous attempts to submit laws such as this and many others that this committee will hear during this session or the numerous attempts of organizations outside of Maine pushing ballot initiatives. While some argue that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment in the United States Constitution is ambiguous, our state constitution is more straight forward; Article I, section 16 “Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms and this right shall never be questioned.” (*CONSTITUTION of MAINE 1 CONSTITUTION of the STATE of MAINE, n.d.*) It certainly appears that our right is being questioned.

Sincerely,

Michael Hobbs

Auburn, Maine

Statista Research Department. (2018). *Weapons used in mass shootings in the U.S. 1982-2018* | *Statistic*. Statista; Statista. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/476409/mass-shootings-in-the-us-by-weapon-types-used/>

*CONSTITUTION OF MAINE 1 CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MAINE.* (n.d.).

<https://legislature.maine.gov/doc/10674>