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BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH

**Center for
Gun Violence Solutions**

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**In Support – An Act to Reduce Gun Violence Casualties in Maine by Prohibiting the
Possession of Large-capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Good morning and thank you, Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and distinguished members of the committee, for hearing my testimony today.

My name is Kari Still, and I am a Law and Policy Advisor at the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions. At the Center, we address gun violence as a public health emergency and utilize objective, non-partisan research to develop solutions to save lives. Because the use of large-capacity magazines holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition significantly increases the lethality of mass shooting incidents, the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions supports the favorable passage of LD 1109, An Act to Reduce Gun Violence Casualties in Maine by Prohibiting the Possession of Large-capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices.

LD 1109 prohibits knowingly manufacturing, importing, purchasing, possessing, selling, offering, or transferring ownership of a large-capacity ammunition feeding device, also known as a large-capacity magazine (“LCM”), that holds more than 10 rounds of ammunition within Maine. A violation of the law is punishable as a Class D misdemeanor.

LCMs are ammunition-feeding devices that hold more than 10 rounds, allowing shooters to fire multiple rounds without reloading. This capability increases the speed and continuity of gunfire, making firearms more lethal in mass shooting events. As of 2025, 14 states and DC have adopted LCM restrictions to protect public safety.

Research conducted over the last two decades shows that state-level LCM restrictions, when fully implemented, are [highly effective](#) at reducing firearm deaths. A study on mass shootings that occurred over a 33-year period found that states with LCM prohibitions had nearly [50% fewer mass shootings](#) as compared to states without LCM prohibitions. Mass shootings involving LCMs are also [much deadlier](#) than those not involving LCMs. Research shows that when LCMs are used in a mass shooting, an average of 12 deaths per incident occurs, as compared to just five deaths in shootings without LCMs.

The tragic events of the 2023 Lewiston mass shooting highlight the [devastating role of LCMs](#) in mass shooting incidents. The shooter used two 20-round magazines fixed together, enabling him to fire [54 rounds in two minutes](#), leading to significant destruction and loss of life. We can prevent this kind of devastating violence and loss by restricting access to the tools that enable mass shooters to kill as many people as they can as quickly as they can. You have the power and opportunity to proactively reduce the lethality of future mass shootings, if another incident were to occur, by adopting this policy.

For these reasons and more, the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions urges you to protect the lives of Mainers by voting in favor of LD 1109.