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LD 1109

I wish to express my opposition to LD 1109 and its restrictions on firearm magazine capacity. It is another "feel good" proposal that does not address the real social causes of firearms violence. While it has noble intentions, it will accomplish nothing except restricting law abiding citizens from having the means to defend themselves in dire situations. On a practical level it will burden firearms owners with the expense and time to replace nonconforming magazines or convert existing magazines to comply with an arbitrary capacity restriction that will have no effect on the criminal use of firearms or the lethality of those using them for violence.

This legislation is in large part inspired by the very tragic Lewiston shooting. A shooting that was very much preventable had existing laws and policies been followed by both law enforcement and the military. New gun restrictions do not address these failures. A law restricting magazine capacity would not have made a difference. The legislature should be looking at fixing the causes of those failures in the application of existing laws, not regulating inanimate objects possessed by law abiding firearms owners.