

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn and members of the committee, my name is Peg Duhamel and I live in Woolwich. I am a retired primary care doctor and have lived in Maine for 37 years.

I am here to speak in favor of LD 677, LD1109 and LD 1126.

LD 677, LD 1109

Since 1939 the US Congress passed various laws making automatic weapons illegal in the US. The reason given for passing these laws was that these weapons “posed a significant threat to public safety.” I would say that rapid fire devices should be illegal for the **very same reasons**. Bump stocks can allow rifles to fire at 400 to 800 rounds per minute, auto sears and glock switches can allow pistols to fire at up to 1200 rounds per minute. When these types of devices, including large capacity magazines, have been used in mass shootings (meaning 4 or more people killed), nearly 6 times as many people were shot, more than twice as many killed and 23 times as many people were wounded when compared to when these devices were not used in other mass shootings. States with magazine capacity limits experience mass shootings at half the rate compared to states without such restrictions. Multiple sources report that bump stocks increase a weapons fire rate at the expense of accuracy, making them a poor choice for sport or self- defense, so why use them?

I also feel that the right of people killed by gun violence to live, supercedes the right of anyone to own a weapon with mass killing potential. Chemical weapons are illegal, tanks with firearms are illegal, most machine guns are illegal, so if we want to make Maine a safer place, we will make rapid fire devices and high capacity magazines illegal as well. (everytown.org)

Regarding LD1126

No one buys an unserialized, unfinished firearm product with the intention of not finishing it. Anyone buying an unserialized homemade gun now has a gun that is just as capable of killing people as any one purchased from a licensed gun dealer. So what legitimate reason could be given to treat these weapons any differently than we treat other firearms under current Maine law? It is just **basic common sense** that we should require all firearms to be serialized.

Thank you