

3/26/25 Judiciary Committee Hearings

---

From Hillary Shende <hcb2@hotmail.com>

Date Tue 3/25/2025 4:33 PM

To Hillary Shende <hcb2@hotmail.com>; hillaryshende1@gmail.com <hillaryshende1@gmail.com>

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Hillary Shende from Brunswick, and I am here in support of LDs 677, 1109, and 1126.

As a parent of two school age children, I worry every day that one or both of my children might not come home from school in the afternoon because of a school shooting. Highly lethal mass shootings are a unique stain on our country, and part of the reason they are so deadly here is because of the easy accessibility of rapid-fire modification devices and large capacity magazines. These accessories allow a firearm to shoot many more rounds, and at a significantly faster pace, than a legal firearm otherwise could, making it way too easy to kill scores of people, potentially my children, or yours, in mere minutes.

No one needs these devices, and to ban them poses no infringement on anyone's rights. You can still hunt all you want and protect your home. In fact, to be able to hunt, your weapon can't hold any more than 5 rounds anyway.

As for LD 1126, requiring serialization for all firearms is crucial for the ATF to be able to trace weapons and solve crimes. Families of murder victims deserve to be able to seek justice for their loved ones. And LD 1126 doesn't infringe on anyone's rights either. It allows hobbyists to continue pursuing their hobbies, and doesn't prevent them from owning their own guns; it simply brings those weapons into alignment with the way traditional firearms are already serialized.

Finally, I want to add my name to the list of folks opposed to the bills that will be heard this afternoon, namely LDs 424, 829, 953, 998, and 1049. Each of those bills would only increase the likelihood of more firearm deaths in Maine, so please vote against them. Thank you.