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To the members of the Judiciary Committee, regarding LD 677, LD 1109, and LD 1126:

As a resident of Lewiston for the last 48 years and as a surgeon, now retired, these gun safety measures have extra relevance for me. I grew up at a time when Gene Autry and the Lone Ranger could only pull the trigger six times before having to reload. These days we are contending with weapons that can spray bullets rapidly, up to 10 or 15 or 20 rounds – maybe more – in just a few seconds with one pull of the trigger. Targeted people have little time to duck for cover or to escape when someone starts shooting at them with such guns. LD's 677 and 1109 would not effect the rights of responsible gun owners. Instead, they would improve the chances of survival of those coming under fire.

LD 1126 would enable law enforcement to trace the source and the users of home-made firearms. Cars must be registered and their licenses must be displayed. Doctors must renew their licenses every few years. Those seeking employment often have to undergo drug tests. By these means, society is protected. Why should guns go ~~unregistered?~~ *unlabeled?* Police officers would be both protected and enabled if these unmarked guns became less ghostly.

Please support these three bills and make Maine a safer place. I speak not only for the residents of Lewiston, but for the members of the Maine Medical Association and the American College of Surgeons.