

Dear Sen Carney, Rep Kuhn, and Members of the committee,

My name is Andrea Truncali. I am a physician living in Portland with my family of five including three children. I work in Brunswick and Portland, providing primary care in a safety net clinic as well as specialty addiction care to people with substance use disorders.

I am writing to support of LD 677 and LD 1109 -Acts to reduce gun violence casualties by limiting the capacity of an individual weapon. I am also requesting support of Representative Zager's proposed LD 1126 to require serialization of firearms. I am in opposition to the remainder of gun legislation to be discussed in this afternoon's hearing.

If you have been personally affected by gun violence, know that this next paragraph is potentially disturbing. You may wish to skip it (or avert your attention). But if you are willing, I hope you will use it to think about what you are being asked to vote on in regard to gun safety.

Picture your child or grandchild- or any child- with rounds of bullets ripping into their flesh, igniting intense pain, bleeding, and terror. Think about the parents of those children who will run those images through their minds for the rest of their lives, wondering how it was for their child and identifying their child's body in the morgue. Think about that happening to any of us walking to a grocery store, a bar, or a bowling alley. Then perhaps contemplate what it would feel like to live in a place where this wasn't happening. Where there wasn't a mass shooting at an average rate of two/day and where this wasn't an escalating threat.<sup>1</sup>

As you consider the bills before you today, I hope you will keep in mind that it is this kind of violence that we are talking about mitigating. This – and not the arguments from the gun lobby, about how the mental health system is the complete answer (It's not, and wont be.) , or how people who like the feel of a gun in their hand have an unlimited right to that power regardless of its impact on the safety and well-being of those around them.

You have the power to do something good today. I hope you will use it.

Please join 20 states including Louisiana and Florida in doing something about effectively turning semiautomatic weapons into machine guns, and vote in favor of LD 677. Please join 14 other states and vote in favor of LD 1109. And support serializing firearms (LD 1126) to limit possession of guns by those who present known risks to our community.

Respectfully,  
Andrea Truncali, MD MPH

#### References

1. BBC News , Dec 17 2024. How many US mass shootings have there been in 2024?