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Testimony of Representative Amy D. Kuhn introducing
**LD 1129, An Act to Clarify Standards for Defendants' Post-judgment Motions
for Relief from Protection from Abuse Orders**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

Senator Carney and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee, as you know, my name is Amy Kuhn and I proudly serve House District 111 in the town of Falmouth. It is a pleasure to be with you today to introduce **LD 1129, An Act to Clarify Standards for Defendants' Post-judgment Motions for Relief from Protection from Abuse Orders**.

This bill makes important changes regarding post-judgment motions for relief brought by defendants in protection from abuse cases. Specifically, it clarifies that absent extraordinary circumstances, a defendant may file a motion to extinguish only in accordance with the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure and that motions to enforce an order and motions for contempt are not available remedies. These changes are intended to ensure that a prevailing plaintiff in a protection from abuse case maintains the protections of their PFA while directing other post-judgment litigation to a more appropriate venue.

I am happy to take any questions, although legal service providers with expertise in this area will follow, and I invite you to direct your questions to them.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce this bill to the Committee.