

Martin Jackson
Wiscasset

Honorable Members of the Committee,

I urge you to vote "Ought not to pass" on LD 1454 for the following reasons;

Tens of thousands of people across this country and state, craft and build their own weapons. This is a tradition that has been carried on since the invention of firearms. This practice is known as gun smithing. This can either be a recognized profession or carried out at a skilled amateur level.

Gunsmiths have no modern recorded history of building firearms for use in unlawful activity. It takes many hours to craft the steel and components into a usable firearm and just because they are supposedly untraceable, does not make them dangerous weapons.

May I remind the Committee that axes, daggers, knives, hammers, shovels, baseball bats, saucepans, rolling pins, tree branches and flash lights are all potentially deadly weapons and "untraceable" and all of these are used in violent crimes each year. I have yet to hear of anybody suggesting banning rolling pins, watch this space...

This bill is yet another attempt at withdrawing the legal rights of law abiding citizens to do as they wish with their time, skills and money, specifically because these things can be used to build a firearm.

Please concentrate your time and efforts in trying to help people with import life issues such as their mental well being, job opportunities and a way forward out of this pandemic. The USA used to be called the "Land of the free and home of the brave". This type of bill is killing off the things that made this country great. Our freedoms are eroded daily and we are turning into cowardly, sniveling wimps. I don't know who sponsored this bill but they should stop pandering to those who shout the loudest, grow up and do something useful with their time in government to get this country back on track!

I strongly urge you to vote "Ought not to pass on LD 1454".