

To: Senator Susan Deschambault, Representative Charlotte Warren, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety

From: Janet Lynch, Pownal, representing myself

Date: 3 May, 2021

Re: L.D. 1454, titled “An Act To Prohibit Untraceable and Undetectable Firearms”

Dear Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren, and other Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety,

My name is Janet Lynch, I live in Pownal, and I submit this testimony on my own behalf. As a Mainer who is deeply concerned about the epidemic of gun violence in our state and in our country, I strongly support L.D. 1454, “An Act To Prohibit Untraceable and Undetectable Firearms”. I am grateful to Representative Zager for introducing this bill and I strongly urge you to vote that this much needed bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Undetectable firearms represent a grave and growing threat to public safety. So-called “ghost guns” and downloadable, 3-D printed guns are intended to evade detection and therefore regulation. Many are modified to make them particularly deadly. The only conceivable reason anyone would intentionally evade detection and regulation of extremely deadly firearms is to commit crimes without detection.

We have an epidemic of gun violence in this country, and undetectable and untraceable firearms, especially those which are modified to make them more deadly by firing large rounds of ammunition, make law enforcement’s job almost impossible. Imagine for example trying to enforce highway safety if motorists created their own after-market vehicles, without serial numbers or any means of tracing them, and then added after-market capabilities to them to make them faster and more deadly. Imagine what a safety nightmare that would be on the nation’s roads. Now imagine that this was being done to a product whose primary purpose is not transportation, but to kill and maim. This is the problem that law enforcement now faces when trying to maintain public safety when we are awash in undetectable, untraceable firearms modified to make them as deadly as some of the most dangerous weapons of war. This is untenable and unacceptable.

In consideration of the urgent need this bill fills, as well as its reasonable exemptions, I strongly urge the members of this Committee to please, vote that L.D. 976, “An Act To Prohibit Untraceable and Undetectable Firearms,” OUGHT TO PASS.

Sincerely,



Janet Lynch

Janet Lynch
Pownal, representing myself.

N.B.: Text of my written testimony is pasted below; a formal, signed pdf copy is attached.

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