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Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren, and members of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, my name is Hillary Shende from Brunswick. Thank you for hearing my testimony today.

I urge you ban bump stock devices in Maine. As you know, they can essentially turn a firearm into a fully automatic machine gun, which is something our country decided was too dangerous for the public to possess in 1934. We similarly don't allow the public to possess tanks, grenades, and in some states, even fireworks, so why on earth would we allow the public to possess these machine gun workarounds?

There is currently an ATF regulation banning bump stocks, but it is not a law, and it could be overturned by a court or a presidential administration at any time. A state law banning bump stocks in Maine would ensure that even if that ATF regulation gets overturned, Maine lives would still be protected.

Banning bump stocks also wouldn't harm anyone's second amendment rights. Bump stocks didn't even exist at the time the second amendment was written, and no one needs a bump stock device to go hunting or protect one's home.

Please pass LD 976 and protect Mainer's lives. Thank you.