

Dear Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Donna Stevens, I am a resident of Bath, Maine, and I am writing today in opposition to **LD 976 "An Act to Amend the Definition of "Machine Gun" To Include Bump Stock Devices"**.

This proposed legislation appears to be little more poorly veiled attempt to equate semi-automatic firearms to machine guns in the eyes of the general public so that it will be easier to sell a semi-automatic gun to a public ignorant of firearms and the reality of their functionality and limitations.

A machine gun is a fully automatic weapon that fires multiple rounds in rapid succession with a single function/pull of the trigger.

Bump-stock firing of a semi-automatic firearm uses the recoil of a semi-automatic firearm to shoot multiple rounds in rapid succession similar to the way a machine-gun fires ammunition but a semiautomatic firearm, with or without a bump stock device, will only discharge one round of ammunition for each pull of the trigger and would still require multiple pulls of the trigger to fire multiple rounds of ammunition.

While bump stock devices may change *how* the pull of the trigger is accomplished, it doesn't change the functionality or factual limitation that with or without a bump stock device, a semi-automatic firearm will only fire one single bullet for each pull of the trigger. A bump stock device doesn't magically turn a semi-automatic firearm into a machine gun and to pretend it does perpetuates a malicious falsehood.

I ask that you put common sense before anti-gun propaganda and vote Ought Not to Pass on this piece of legislation.

Thank you for your continued hard work for Maine, a state with a high rate of gun owner per capita that is proud to boast the title of safest state in the nation, and its people who are committed to keeping that designation by continuing our long-standing culture of responsible firearm ownership.