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Testimony of Representative Amy Roeder presenting LD 1015, "An Act To Ban Hunting with Ammunition That Contains Lead" before the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Good morning Senator Dill, Representative Landry, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. My name is Amy Roeder, and I represent House District 125, which includes part of Bangor. I am here today to present LD 1015, An Act To Ban Hunting with Ammunition That Contains Lead.

This bill prohibits the use of ammunition that contains lead when hunting in Maine and fines those who violate this prohibition. When lead bullets are used, they have the ability to kill much more than the game a hunter is after. The shrapnel from bullets can end up in water sources and eaten by other animals, thus harming and potentially killing them, which also impacts hunters.

I recently met with a constituent who is passionately supportive of this legislation, and I can understand why. LD 1015 provides an opportunity to discuss an issue that matters to and impacts so many of us, and I am certain that this committee would be able to determine many possible solutions. I understand that there is much for the Legislature to accomplish this session, between strengthening our local health care infrastructure to finding ways to rebuild our local economies, among many other issues that were of focus before the pandemic. That is why I humbly urge you to return to this legislation at a more appropriate time.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I am happy to take your questions.