

Chris Frappier
Mount Vernon
LD 1109

Written Testimony in Opposition to LD 1109
Submitted to the Maine Judiciary Committee
Public Hearing: March 26, 2025

Chris Frappier, Resident of Mount Vernon, House District 58
Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Chris Frappier, and I am a proud resident of Mount Vernon on Plains Road in House District 58. As a law-abiding Maine citizen, I am writing to express my strong opposition to LD 1109, "An Act to Limit Ammunition Magazines for Firearms," which would restrict magazines to 10 rounds. I respectfully request that this written testimony be included in the record for your consideration during the hearing on March 26, 2025.

I am deeply concerned that this bill undermines the safety and rights of Mainers like me without addressing the root causes of gun violence. Let me explain why this proposal would do more harm than good.

First, LD 1109 imposes a significant financial and practical burden on law-abiding gun owners. Many of us have invested substantial sums—hundreds or even thousands of dollars—in firearms and magazines that hold more than 10 rounds. These are tools we rely on for hunting, sport shooting, and self-defense. Forcing us to replace or reconfigure them would be costly and disruptive, especially when our current equipment meets our needs perfectly. This isn't just about money; it's about upending the way we've responsibly exercised our rights for years.

More critically, this bill jeopardizes our personal safety. Consider this: Maine's police officers carry standard-issue handguns with magazines holding 15 or 17 rounds—not 10—because they know that's what's needed to protect themselves in a crisis. If that capacity is essential for law enforcement, why should I, a rural resident in Mount Vernon, be denied the same ability to defend myself and my family? In areas like mine, where help can be miles and minutes away, a 10-round limit could leave me vulnerable in a life-or-death moment. Safety isn't a privilege reserved for the police; it's a right we all deserve.

Beyond these practical concerns, LD 1109 fails to address the real issues driving gun violence. This bill seems to stem from a tragedy marked by mental health failures—not lawful gun ownership. From what I understand, there were clear warning signs and missed opportunities to intervene before that event unfolded. Yet instead of fixing those gaps—strengthening mental health resources or enforcing laws against illegal firearms—this proposal targets people like me, turning law-abiding citizens into criminals overnight for possessing what we've legally owned for years. Criminals, by their nature, ignore laws; a 10-round cap won't stop them from acquiring what they want. Meanwhile, Mainers who follow the rules bear the punishment.

This feels like a reactive measure that misses the mark. If we're serious about solutions, let's invest in mental health support, crack down on illegal gun trafficking, and enforce the laws already on the books. LD 1109 doesn't make us safer—it just burdens the people who aren't the problem.

I urge you to vote against LD 1109 and to consider the voices of constituents like me who want practical, effective policies—not symbolic ones that erode our rights and security. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony. I respectfully request that it be added to the record for the March 26, 2025, hearing. Please let me know if there are any additional steps I should take to ensure its inclusion.

Respectfully,
Chris Frappier
Mount Vernon, Maine