



Supportive Testimony:

LD 677 “An Act to Update the Statutory Definition of "Machine Gun" and Prohibit Possession of a Rapid-fire Device”,

LD 953 “An Act to Change the Definition of "Machine Gun" in the Maine Criminal Code”,

LD 1109 “An Act to Reduce Gun Violence Casualties in Maine by Prohibiting the Possession of Large-capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices”, and

LD 1126 “An Act Requiring Serial Numbers on Firearms and Prohibiting Undetectable Firearms”

Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

March 26, 2025

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Kathleen Moneghan. I am the President of the Maine Academy of Physician Associates (MEAPA), a Dover-Foxcroft resident, and I practice medicine in Occupational Health and Urgent Care. MEAPA is a non-profit organization that represents over 1,000 PAs practicing in Maine and the patients we care for. Today, I am testifying on behalf of MEAPA in support of LD 677 “An Act to Update the Statutory Definition of "Machine Gun" and Prohibit Possession of a Rapid-fire Device”,

LD 953 “An Act to Change the Definition of "Machine Gun" in the Maine Criminal Code”

LD 1109 “An Act to Reduce Gun Violence Casualties in Maine by Prohibiting the Possession of Large-capacity Ammunition Feeding Devices” and LD 1126 “An Act Requiring Serial Numbers on Firearms and Prohibiting Undetectable Firearms”

As you all know, Maine had its first mass casualty event in 2023, killing 18 Maine citizens- citizens that you represent-with an AR-10, the same weapon used to kill 58 people in Las Vegas. AR-15s were used in Buffalo, Uvalde, Highland Park, Sutherland Springs, Texas and Boulder, Colorado. MEAPA has prioritized gun safety, and this has become a priority for our constituents and their patients in the wake of nationwide trends and shock of October’s shooting in Lewiston. It can and now has happened here.

In 1789, when the second amendment was passed by Congress, the average number of musket balls that could be fired by a member of the militia was about two per minute. The Sandy Hook elementary school shooter subjected those small children and teachers to 154 bullets in less than 4 minutes, or about 38 bullets per minute from a semiautomatic rifle.

Healthcare professionals have suffered alongside family, friends, loved ones and patients. These bills are not the only answer; however, it is an important start. This legislation will have a profound impact for Mainers, if not just the first layer in the foundation you can help build. When you look in the eyes of your



son or daughter, brother or sister, friend or colleague, know your position, report and vote on this legislation may directly impact their lives and possibly your own.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Kathleen Moneghan, DHA, MPAS, PA-C
President, Maine Academy of Physician Associates