

Heidi Nydam
Lewiston, Bates College
LD 1126

Hello Sen. Carney, Rep. Kuhn, and Members of the Judiciary Committee, I am Heidi Nydam, a current student at Bates College and a huge appreciator of this great state of Maine where I have come to feel at home. I was also on campus when the Lewiston shooting occurred and have become very passionate about ensuring that everyone in Maine can feel safe and at home, which is the antithesis of the anxiety and fear we all felt during that time.

I am writing in support of LD: 1126 to require serial numbers and prohibit undetectable firearms. There is no reason that every day people should have access to guns that others are unaware of, or be able to construct their own guns without regulation. This only enables horrific events like the Lewiston shooting to be repeated, with ease, without legislation preventing them. It was truly terrifying to be locked in the library and then our dorm rooms for days on end, and I hope you consider how, even as a fortunate, and relatively removed from the event, student I had extreme moments of self reflection during this time and decided I would forevermore be committed to ending gun violence. I hope my considerations inspire you to do some of your own self reflection and work to pass LD 1126. Thank you for listening.