

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 1113

H.P. 796

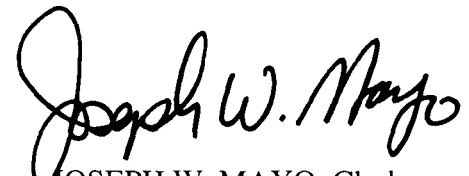
House of Representatives, March 30, 1995

**An Act to Make Possession of Armor-piercing Bullets a Class C Crime.**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BAILEY of Township 27.  
Cosponsored by Representative: BUNKER of Kossuth Township.

2           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** a new, very destructive handgun bullet has been  
invented and is designed to penetrate body armor; and

8           **Whereas,** the citizens of the State are concerned and  
threatened by this new handgun bullet; and

10  
12           **Whereas,** once these bullets are on the market, they could  
easily get into the wrong hands; and

14           **Whereas,** the legislation proposed by this bill intends to  
make possession of these bullets a crime; and

16  
18           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
20 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore,

22  
24           **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

26           **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §1056, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 1993, c.  
457, §1, is further amended to read:

28           2. As used in this chapter, "armor-piercing ammunition"  
means a projectile or projectile core that may be used in a  
30 handgun and that is constructed entirely, excluding the presence  
of traces of other substances, from one or a combination of  
32 tungsten alloys, steel, iron, brass, beryllium copper ex-  
depleted uranium or carbon-based plastics, including but not  
34 limited to ammunition commonly known as KTW ammunition and  
Rhino-Ammo and Black Rhino ammunition. "Armor-piercing  
36 ammunition" does not include shotgun shot required by federal or  
state environmental or game laws, rules or regulations for  
38 hunting purposes, a frangible projectile designed for target  
shooting or any projectile or projectile core found by the United  
40 States Secretary of the Treasury or the secretary's delegate,  
pursuant to 27 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 178.148 or  
42 Section 178.149, to be:

44           A. Primarily intended to be used for sporting purposes; or

46           B. Used for industrial purposes, including a charge used in  
an oil and gas well perforating device.

48  
50           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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## STATEMENT OF FACT

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6           This bill makes possession of carbon-based plastic  
ammunition commonly known as "Rhino-Ammo" or "Black Rhino"  
ammunition a Class C crime.