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LD 860

There are few true economic development opportunities that the state can pursue. Development of intra and inter state rail service beyond Brunswick to the north will - as in many other situations - spur economic development. Saco/Bidderford is the most recent example here in state.

Service should be a natural extension of service beyond Brunswick and make better use of the Brunswick service facility. Numerous colleges are along the route. Just look at the University of New Hampshire at Durham. Out of state, the Amtrack station at Kingston, RI is very active with the URI students as I have witnessed first hand.

Their autos move from the campus over to the railroad station on weekends! I have contacted bus lines along the route. There is keen interest in having the rails to Bangor. Especially to Acadia. It is beyond time to get serious about rail passenger extensions northward.

Support for LD860 is a no brainer. It will prove to be a prudent and precious use of state funds over the long haul. I have 50 years of direct involvement with the rail industry. Respectfully, Robert E Holland