



In Support of LD 1072
An Act Regarding the Bureau of Motor Vehicles
Joint Committee on Transportation
April 27, 2023

Good Afternoon, Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and distinguished members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is April Gleason and I am the Chief Loan Officer for University Credit Union (UCU). UCU serves the members and families of the University of Maine System as well as several other organizations. We represent more than 28,000 members and \$459 million in assets. I am submitting testimony today **in favor of LD 1072**.

University Credit Union frequently makes auto loans to members of our community. Not only is this a core part of our business, it helps us provide lower interest rates and monthly payments to our members when we can assist with refinancing.

Since the state has not yet fully implemented electronic titling, for most refinances, UCU must wait to receive the title from the previous financial institution before sending it to the Secretary of State's office for title updates. These documents do not come immediately after the loan is finalized; we typically receive the titles from the prior financial institution very close to the 30 day deadline for title changes.

Once we do receive the title, we must mail the title application with the title 4-5 days before the 30 day deadline to factor in the time it will take to get to the proper destination in the mail. While this should be plenty of time to get to the Secretary of State's office, on at least 5 or more occasions we have received the late fee amount of \$50 for factors that are completely out of our control.

We do due diligence to attempt to get these documents to the Secretary of State (SoS) in a timely fashion, but we are still being penalized for factors outside of our control. The statute says applications must be *received* by the SoS within 30 days, giving them no flexibility in waiving fees if the application was *postmarked* within 30 days.

We appreciate the Bureau adding the ability to waive these fees in legitimate circumstances like these and would urge the committee to support LD 1072.

Thank you for hearing our testimony.