

Jake Bond
Portland
LD 511

I live in the East Deering neighborhood of Portland, and I am writing in strong support of LD 511. This trail would mean so much to anyone in our neighborhood who is trying to get to work without owning a car.

Years ago, I lived in Chicago, and I biked to work on rail-trails that served as bike highways for morning commuters. Chicagoans used these trails to get to work even in the dead of winter. Mainers would love to do the same. I didn't even think about owning a car when I lived there. The trails were plowed and treated in the winter. Even on the coldest days, I passed many people biking to work.

The Casco Bay Trail would make the no-car lifestyle so much easier in Maine. It would open up work opportunities for people who can't afford the skyrocketing cost of cars, gasoline, and insurance, or who simply want to reduce their impact on their environment and live a healthier lifestyle.

When you consider this bill, please understand that the trail is not just a great recreational opportunity. It would also provide an entirely new way to commute to work for the people of East Deering, Auburn, and everywhere in between.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this bill.