

Simon Pitman

Bristol, NH

3/31/2025

Maine State Legislature

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Simon Pitman, and I reside in Bristol, NH. I am writing today to strongly oppose LD 154, specifically the provision within the bill that seeks to remove certain transportation lines. While I understand that this bill encompasses various changes to transportation law, this particular change poses significant risks to the affected regions.

Removing these transportation lines without thorough consultation with economic planning entities is a crucial oversight. Economic planning entities, such as local chambers of commerce, transportation planning boards, and regional development agencies, should be consulted to assess the full impact of such a decision. These entities have the expertise to analyze the potential economic consequences and ensure that the removal of these lines will not negatively affect the communities they serve.

By sidestepping this important procedure, we risk undermining the integrity of this entire process. The lack of consultation jeopardizes the careful, informed decision-making that should be at the heart of transportation policy. Without this step, we cannot ensure that the changes made will not harm the very communities they are meant to serve. As a current Railroad operations manager, if we were to cut corners and not look at the different variables, then I wouldn't be working as successfully as I am today.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 154 and ensure that any changes to our transportation system are made with the full input of economic planning experts. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Simon Pitman