

Mary Pirleci
BERRY KIND SMOOTHIES, LLC
LD 1020

Testimony of Mary Pirleci, a Portland resident, mother of 2, and local business owner,
In Support of LD 1020, An Act Repealing the Laws for the Gorham Connector
April 3, 2025

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing
Committee on Transportation

My name is Mary Pirleci and I am a proud resident of Portland. I operate my own
smoothie company here and raise my family here.

I support LD 1020 for so many reasons that are logical (\$330 million spent for a few
minutes of drive time saved is not worth it), as well as reasons that are emotional
(MTA has misled and lied about polls and studies regarding this audacious project).
The number one reason I support this bill is to protect Smiling Hill Farm. There is a
time and a place for technological advances and fixing things when they are broken,
but this is NOT one of them. I stand up for the under dog and go against the greed and
corruption of this proposed project. Let's keep Maine the way life is supposed to be,
and not annihilate another small business in the name of false "convenience". We
need our farms, we need our community, and we do NOT need the MTA to fix a
nonissue with a heinous "solution".

Please support this bill so we can be sure the MTA will not try this nonsense with
Mainers again and if so it will be done in a more democratic process.

I am willing to assist the committee in any way that is helpful. Thank you.

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