

To the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation April 8th, 2025

Americans for Prosperity Testimony Support of L.D. 661 (H.P. 429), An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Inspection Requirements

Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Rachel Burgin, and I am the Deputy Regional State Director for Americans for Prosperity. On behalf of our organization and the Mainers we represent, we are in strong support of L.D. 661 (H.P. 429), sponsored by Representative Amy Roeder.

This legislation is a smart, freedom-forward reform that respects personal responsibility, curbs unnecessary government overreach, and fosters greater prosperity for Maine residents.

Under L.D. 661, new motor vehicles would be exempt from mandatory inspections for the first three years following manufacture—unless the vehicle is damaged or ownership is transferred. This is a common-sense adjustment that reflects both technological advancements in vehicle safety and the lived experiences of Mainers. Modern vehicles are engineered with rigorous safety standards, and requiring immediate inspections on brand-new cars adds needless red tape and financial strain, without delivering clear public safety benefits. We would love to see the number of years extended or the inspection mandate completely eliminated, but this bill would facilitate a first step.

Importantly, Maine is one of a shrinking number of states that still mandate annual vehicle inspections at all. **Over 30 states have no such requirement**—and these states have not seen a corresponding rise in roadway accidents due to vehicle malfunctions. Mainers who have moved here from those states, or who travel frequently, often express frustration at the burdens imposed by these outdated mandates. In practice, these inspections can translate into lost **work hours**, **costly repairs**, and **logistical headaches for working families** already facing high living costs.

At Americans for Prosperity, we believe that reducing regulatory barriers is essential to economic freedom. L.D. 661 is a step toward aligning Maine's policies with proven national trends and empowering Mainers to thrive with less government intrusion.

We respectfully urge your support for this legislation.

With gratitude,

Rachel Burgin Regional Deputy State Director Americans for Prosperity

