

Kathi Yergin
Topsham
LD 2096

Hello Senator Talbot-Ross, Representative Pluecker, and distinguished members of the Agricultural, Conservation and Forestry Committee. My name is Kathi Yergin, President of the Topsham Fair.

I represent our Agriculture Fair opposition to LD 2096. On Saturday January 24, 2026 at the annual MAAF conference 24 of our fair's representatives were in attendance, who agreed and voted unanimously not to support this bill.

The bill title "An Act Regarding Scheduling of Agricultural Fairs and Pulling" does not protect the smaller fairs in the State of Maine. This would hurt the smaller fairs to survive and then hurt the communities they represent. This bill will be detrimental to all but three fairs in the state of Maine.

At the meeting all the fair representatives were vehemently opposed to the language, specifically on page 1 of the bill, Sec.1. MRSA 81 Sub§1 lines 11-26, inclusive, and on page 2 of the bill 5. Exception, as LD 2026 as amended allows for 48 hours prior with exceptions. I am neither for or against the remainder of the bill.

It would be beneficial for each representative to reach out to the smaller fairs who focus on educating our youth and benefits it brings. Not all fairs have pulling but bring their own value to their fair and our State. Please reach out to them, see how this will impact so many.