



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Allison Hepler

417 Montsweag Rd.

Woolwich, ME 04579

Phone: (207) 319-4396

Allison.Hepler@legislature.maine.gov

February 1, 2024

Testimony of Rep. Allison Hepler presenting

LD 2056, Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway

Before the Joint Committee on Transportation

Good morning, Sen. Chipman, Rep. Crafts, and members of the Transportation Committee. I am Allison Hepler and I represent the towns of Arrowsic, Georgetown, Phippsburg, West Bath and Woolwich. I am here today to present **LD 2056, Resolve, Designating Route 127 in Arrowsic the Private Merwin A. Delano, Jr. Memorial Highway.**

I learned about Pvt. Merwin A. Delano, Jr. last year during a conversation with a constituent. Pvt. Delano was an 18 year old man from Arrowsic when he was killed in Vietnam in 1966. He is remembered by the local VFW and American Legion, by a classmate and, now, by the Town of Arrowsic.

The Selectboard and then the Town of Arrowsic got to know him last year at Town Meeting when residents considered – and voted to support – a request to honor Pvt. Delano with a road name. I was very impressed, though not surprised, by the thoughtful discussion at Town Meeting. This is who Arrowsic is. Also, as a Town of 470 people, Arrowsic doesn't have many roads, so this is especially significant.

For your geographical awareness, Route 127 is the main road on this bridged island, connecting Woolwich from the north to the southern end where another bridge takes you to Georgetown.

It's been an honor to get to know his family who is here today to tell you about him.

Thank you for your time. I am happy to take any questions you may have.