



James Libby, Ph.D.
Senator, District 22

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony of Senator James D. Libby
Sponsor of L.D. 2, "An Act to Allow Military Vehicles Purchased for Civilian Use to Be Registered and Operated on Maine Roads"

Public Hearing, Thursday, February 27, 2025
Cross Building, Room 220

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation,

My name is Jim Libby, and I am a State Senator representing Senate District # 22, comprised of the towns of Naples, Sebago, Baldwin, and Standish in Cumberland County; Hiram and Porter in Oxford County; and, Limington, Limerick, Cornish, Parsonsfield, Newfield, Acton, and Shapleigh, in the County of York.

It is my honor to bring to your attention the contents of L.D. 2, "An Act to Allow Military Vehicles Purchased for Civilian Use to Be Registered and Operated on Maine Roads

Committee members, I'd like to begin by discussing the purpose for bringing you a bill of this nature, for the second time in two terms.

Many of my constituents and yours were shocked to learn that they could not re-register their vehicles that were formerly military vehicles. This outcome appears to have come from legislation that passed in a previous legislature.

I have taken the time to travel parts of the state to learn more about these vehicles. Believe it or not, I have found great joy and been in awe with the hundreds of ways that former military vehicles are being used by private citizens for both personal and public purposes. Special thanks go to Sam Gilpatrick, Captain of the Cornish Fire Department, who spent hundreds of hours putting together testimony, information packets, and coordinating people from across the state who own military vehicles.

After all the research that I have done, I find it terrible that the state would nullify the property of hundreds of Maine citizens in the name of public safety, when in fact, these vehicles are safely operated on Maine roads and have been used in recovery efforts far and wide.

Please understand that there are hundreds of people, if not thousands, who have put hard-earned money into updating and maintaining these vehicles. They stand to lose a lifetime of investment and pride in workmanship, but more importantly, many of these vehicles are lent or used for public purposes. This committee can put these vehicles back on the road to join Cybertrucks, commercial vehicles, and other with similar size, weight, and other characteristics. I certainly hope that you will join me in support of L.D. 2.