



**TESTIMONY OF
Timothy S. Doyle
ON**

**L.D. 478, "An Act to Reduce Maximum Speeds on Roads Close
to Residences"**

Good afternoon, Senator Nangle, Representative Craft, and members of the Transportation Committee. My name is Tim Doyle and I am the Vice President of Maine Motor Transport Association. The Association is comprised of over 1,800-member companies, whose employees comprise a large portion of the nearly 33,600 people who make their living in the trucking industry in Maine.

I am here today to testify in opposition to LD 478.

This bill seeks reduce the speed on public ways from 45 mph, unless the speed is otherwise posted, when there is at least one residence within 15 feet of the public way. The speed would be set at 25 mph for snow plow equipment utilized by MDOT and for trucks with 5 or more axles. The speed for all other vehicles would be set at 35 mph.

MMA sees a number of issues with this bill:

1. There is a process for setting lower speed limits on a public way that is outline in statute. That process involves

engineering and traffic investigations conducted by MDOT and would also gather municipal input and require the approval of the Chief of the Maine State Police. See Title 29A Section 2075.

2. Setting the speed for certain vehicles at a different rate of speed than other vehicles on the same road does not enhance highway safety, in fact it does the opposite.
3. This bill would be difficult to comply with, and enforce, as it would be practically impossible for a truck driver or a law enforcement officer to ascertain the distance a house sets back from the public way.

MMTA opposes this bill for these reasons and urges the Committee to vote ought not to pass.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.