

**Testimony to the 132nd Maine Legislature**  
**Joint Committee on Transportation**  
**Testimony in Support of LD 487**

March 6, 2025

Good morning. Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and members of the Transportation Committee of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Maine Legislature.

My name is Nick Weiss. I am a senior studying Business Administration at Thomas College. I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to work in the transportation industry. I am here today to testify **in support of LD 487**. Today I am proud to be here with a group of dedicated students from Thomas College, along with our faculty advisor, Matt Giley, to support this project.

Passenger rail has many benefits to Maine. If the train gets expanded up to Orono, college students in Southern Maine and the Greater Boston area can simply hop on the train to attend classes at Bates, Colby, Thomas, Husson, and UMaine.

Expanding passenger rail also allows more economic development for businesses in the communities by the expanded rail line. Restaurants will have more customers. New businesses will want to develop in industrial areas like FirstPark in Oakland, bringing more people to Maine and increasing state revenues.

Maine has put the issue of passenger rail off for long enough. I respectfully ask you to support LD 487. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for the work you do to represent the citizens of your House and Senate districts in the 132<sup>nd</sup> Maine Legislature.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Weiss

Thomas College '25, MBA '26