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**Testimony of Collin “Scott” Beal in Support of LD-1313, An Act to Promote Equity in the Forest Products Industry by Allowing Commercial Wood Haulers to Be Eligible for Certain Sales Tax Exemptions and Refunds**

April 9, 2025

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier and members of the Taxation Committee. I'm Scott Beal of Baileyville. I'm a retiree of Woodland Pulp LLC where I worked for 44 years. I continue to proudly serve as a member of the Maine Forest Products Council's Executive Committee. It is in this capacity that I submit this brief testimony in support of this bill.

When considering the tax exemptions that have been available (and justifiably so) to commercial agriculture, aquaculture and fishing, it seems only fitting that commercial transporters of Forest Products should be afforded the same beneficial tax treatment as those that I mentioned above.

This bill will strengthen a vital link in the supply chain to the various end users of wood as well as benefit those that deliver the finished products.

Thank you to the sponsors of this bill being considered today and thank you to the committee for considering this important piece of legislation for our state's forest products industry. I respectfully ask for your support in passing LD-1313.

Sincerely,  
Scott Beal