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*Testimony of Representative Dan Shagoury introducing
LD 1508, An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding Tinted Windows in
Motor Vehicles*

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Good afternoon, Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. I am Representative Dan Shagoury, and I represent House District 55 - the communities of Hallowell, Manchester and West Gardiner. I am pleased to present LD 1508, An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding Tinted Windows in Motor Vehicles.

You probably hear this a lot, I know we do in our committee, but this really is a very simple bill. A constituent of mine, who owns a tinting shop, came to me with the idea for this bill. She said that there had been issues with the police for some of her customers who, even though they had valid medical exemptions, were told they could not have the protective film on their windows.

In an attempt to prevent this sort of misunderstanding, I changed "may" in the exemption language to "shall." Additionally, the bill clarifies and specifies exactly which providers could provide the exemption. That's it.

What it doesn't do is change anything else concerning levels of tint and areas that can be tinted without an exemption from a medical provider. The exemption will still have to go to the police to be validated. And the police can still stop a person who they suspect of having illegally darkened auto glass. But if the driver has an approval based on medical necessity, which they should always have with them, then they can go on their way.

I have heard that the State Police will be opposing this bill, and I'm a little disappointed. They foresee lots of people getting these exemptions, and I suppose, by extension, lots of medical providers giving them out unnecessarily. I don't see that happening. What I see happening is that the relatively few people with valid medical reasons for needing the window treatments will have more protection.

Thank you very much for your consideration. My constituent will be following me, and she has the expertise about the window treatment process, but I will be glad to attempt to answer any questions.