

Good afternoon, Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts and Honorable Members of the Committee on Transportation.

My name is Representative Alicia Collins. I represent the towns of Sidney and Vassalboro, and I am Selectman for the Town of Sidney.

I will keep my testimony brief as I know you have work sessions today that don't deal with the renaming of bridges.

Let this conversation start with the Town of Sidney respects veterans and their service. We are forever grateful for their sacrifice. Period.

I am here to testify in favor of LD 1581 – An Act Regarding the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Exemption for Certain Veterans. This bill will save towns money.

Here's the background, the Town of Sidney was finding residents coming into the Town office using this exemption for multiple vehicles – including vehicles that didn't even have the name of the veteran on the title.

The current law is open to interpretation; specifically, it is possible for one neighbor to use their veteran's exemption to register another neighbor's vehicle for FREE. That's not right.

Our Town clerk kept track of the excise amount (revenue) lost from all the free registration for the Town's fiscal year. It amounts to \$32,488.32.

Does the Town expect to recover \$32K? No, we're simply asking the law to be re-written in a way that will prevent abuse. This bill simply requires the veteran's name to appear on the documents used to register the vehicle.

Thank you for your time today.

Alicia C. Collins

State Representative

Sidney Selectman