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Testimony of Rep. Benjamin Hymes on
**LD 1565, "An Act to Allow the Use of Certain All-terrain
Vehicles on Snowmobile Trails"**
Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

April 23, 2025

Good Afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. I am Representative Benjamin Hymes and I proudly serve House District 38. I am here today to present **LD 1565, "An Act to Allow the Use of Certain All-terrain Vehicles on Snowmobile Trails"**.

Currently, ATV owners need to re-register their vehicle whenever they switch between standard wheels and tracks. They also need to re-register when they switch back. The requirement to re-register every time the owners change their wheels seems like an undo administrative burden.

My proposal is to give the owners a much more manageable choice. If you own an ATV and want to keep the standard wheels on, you register in the normal way. If you want to be able to switch between wheels and tracks at your leisure, you can purchase an additional "endorsement sticker" to add to your registration. At the same time, if you want to leave tracks on year-round, you can register as a snowmobile.

I propose a name change to this bill as the title infers that we are changing what types of vehicles can go on a snowmobile trail. That is not the case. We are changing the registration procedures for ATVs. I recommend something like "An Act to Amend the Registration Criteria for Certain All-terrain Vehicles."

The \$25 price for the endorsement sticker merely a suggestion. If the committee determines the fee should be higher or lower I would be open to having that discussion.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Benjamin C. Hymes
State Representative