

April 23 2025

Good afternoon Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier and members of the Taxation Committee, my name is Lee Trahan and I am here to testify in support of LD 1515. As a quadriplegic for the last 28 ½ years, I've been blessed to purchase a few wheelchair equipped vans over the years. My current van is a 2012 Dodge Grand Caravan. I purchased this van in 2018 for \$21,400 in which I paid \$1,177 in state sales tax. This amount could be used to register this vehicle and/or put it toward a number of other expenses, which everyone here knows the costs are only going up, let alone any repairs.

A wheelchair van has allowed me to attend college not once but twice and graduated both times with an associates degree and a one year certificate at KVCC in Fairfield, Maine. My van also allows me to participate in community activities and this opportunity to testify today and share with this committee.

As a current Winslow Town Councilor and the democratic party candidate last November for House District 63, my wheelchair van is a critical tool that allows me the opportunity to serve my constituents in Winslow and hopefully one day as a member of this State Legislature. In closing, I'd like this committee to vote in favor of LD 1515 and help disabled individuals of Maine. Thank You.