



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts and Esteemed Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, I am Mathew McIntyre and I humbly serve as the Representative for Maine's House District 18 comprising 16 towns and four Unorganized Territories spanning portions of Penobscot, Hancock and Washington counties. Today I offer testimony as a bipartisan cosponsor of **LD1451**, "An Act to Strengthen Coordination of Community Transportation", as introduced by Senator Tipping.

In my opinion, this Bill represents a win-win opportunity in that, as presented, it will cost nothing and will also serve to assist in finding the solution to an identified and recognized need within our State. After my review of the Bill language, and based on discussion with the Chief Executive of Penquis to get a better understanding of intent, I believe a unanimous "Ought to Pass" will be an easy determination for your Committee.

What has led me to my conclusion to support LD1451? The answer is simple; the lessons I learned from my 21 years in the United States Secret Service (USSS). Many may immediately ask, "What does a guy in a dark suit and sunglasses know about transportation matters"? Well, let me tell you, I know plenty, but most relevant to this conversation is mission-oriented asset management and heat-map based distribution of limited resources. Even though I am now retired from the USSS, I must remain ever mindful to not reveal tradecraft of executive protection. However, there is one aspect I can speak openly about that may surprise many; I had to become a master of logistics, in local, national and international environments, and I had to do this on a shoestring budget. While in my past career my "precious cargo" was Presidents and Vice Presidents, I easily see how this Bill will ultimately help to craft solutions to safely and efficiently move Maine's equally important populations of older adults, people with disabilities and others who are just not capable of driving themselves where they need to get to. I trust you will see the parallels as well.

How do we solve seemingly Herculean challenges? By building coalitions. This is what LD1451 seeks to achieve, and does so through the simple concept of breaking down silos, encouraging collaboration and building a team of the right people to address a complex challenge. The fact it is free, well, that's a real bonus too.

I thank you for your time, and hope that you will support this Bill.

Respectfully,

Mathew McIntyre