

REED & REED



PO Box 370, Woolwich, ME 04579

May 1, 2025

Honorable Senator Timothy Nagle, Co-Chair
Honorable Representative Lydia Crafts, Co-Chair
Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

RE: LD 1549 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine
Regarding the Use and Oversight of Transportation-related Revenues

My name is Robin Wood and I am Director of Human Resources at Woolwich-based, Reed & Reed, a 97-year-old Maine construction company that is 100% owned by its employees. Our team of employee-owners has built hundreds of transportation projects throughout Maine, including the new Madawaska International Bridge and many others that you have driven across.

I am here today to urge you to support LD 1549 which will stabilize transportation funding in Maine and allow the Department of Transportation to plan and invest in our transportation future. In a largely rural state, transportation is a critical network for keeping people safe, enabling our industries such as tourism and forest products to thrive and connecting people and communities.

At our company we invest millions in the resources and skills necessary to build projects. Skill and career training, safety training, capital equipment, technology investments -all are crucial to building successful projects on-time and on-budget for the Department of Transportation.

This LD 1549 gives voters the decision to fund MaineDOT with sustained investment in Maine's transportation system. Historically, transportation was funded largely by the gas tax but the world is changing and we must adapt how we invest in our transportation future.

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Many transportation projects span several years and require funding from more than one State budget. Shifting legislative priorities, variable gas tax revenues, reliance on bond issues and other factors can undermine transportation investment in Maine and leave people and businesses standing at the curb.

LD 1549 properly allocates various revenue streams to transportation investment in Maine and will prevent future Legislative mischief from jeopardizing the one publicly funded system we all depend on for our jobs, our communities, our safety and our way of life. Our Maine economy cannot survive without sustained investment in transportation.

So, on behalf of all our employee-owners at Reed & Reed, I respectfully urge you to pass LD 1549 and put our statewide investment in transportation on a path to predictability and sustainability.

Thank you,

Robin Wood