



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
16 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0016

Janet T. Mills
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ACTING COMMISSIONER

January 8, 2026

**Testimony of Meghan Russo
Maine Department of Transportation
Before the 132nd Legislature, Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

Neither for Nor Against LD 2029

***Resolve, to Name the New East Main Street Bridge in Dover-Foxcroft in Honor
of Private Willard Merrill and Private Barton Merrill, Jr.***

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, I am Meghan Russo, Director of Government Affairs at MaineDOT. MaineDOT is neither for nor against LD 2029.

MaineDOT considers the naming of bridges, roadways, and other state transportation infrastructure to be within the purview of the Legislature. Simply put, we build them and you name them. Accordingly, we generally do not take positions on so-called “naming bills.” However, we usually submit written testimony regarding whether the particular infrastructure under consideration has been named before, and if so what those name(s) are. In this case, we are not aware of any previous legislatively-sanctioned names for this bridge. MaineDOT’s current inventory number for this structure is 2293.

Thank you.