



James Libby, Ph.D.
Senator, District 22

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

LD, 2183 "An Act to Rename the Little River Bridge in the Town of Cornish the Cornish Veterans Memorial Bridge"

LD 2184, "Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Erect Signs on Warren's Bridge Between the Town of Hiram and the Town of Cornish"

LD 2185, "Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Erect Signs on the East Limington Bridge Between the Town of Standish and the Town of Limington"

LD 2186, "Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Place Signs on the Canal Bridge in the Town of Standish"

The Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Public Hearing

February 12, 2026

1pm

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and Esteemed Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation:

I am Senator Jim Libby, and I represent Senate District 22, parts of Cumberland, Oxford, and York Counties. I pleased to present four bills to you today.

LD 2183, "An Act to Rename the Little River Bridge in the Town of Cornish the Cornish Veterans Memorial Bridge" The Town of Cornish voted to rename this bridge at a special town meeting in September. This is part of a larger effort which my constituent, Ms. Callista Cross, has undertaken to coordinate the naming of a bridge in each town after our veterans. I think this is a wonderful way to remember our veterans and I hope the committee does as well.

The next three bills are codifying the colloquial name for each of the bridges. You will notice I brought forth an amendment. My office was originally under the impression that these bills already had names but were waiting for signs. Maine DOT notified me that these bridges never had official names. The amendment includes the official naming of each of these bridges.

LD 2184 officially names the Warren's Bridge in Cornish and South Hiram. The Warren's Bridge is named after Col. Joseph Warren, He owned a grist mill off a pond near this bridge. Both Hiram and Cornish noted that when this bridge was first built in 1929, it had a sign displaying the name "Warren's Bridge." The bridge serves as an important link between the two communities, and officially naming it will help memorialize the history of this area.¹

LD 2185 officially names the East Limington Bridge. Both Limington and Standish noted the need for better signage to denote the bridge. The Town of Standish said that the lack of signage can "lead to confusion for individual unfamiliar with the area, particularly in situations requiring

¹ <https://www.mainememory.net/record/7243/image/7243>

navigation, directions, or emergency response.” Limington noted that they believe the bridge will help residents and visitors alike. The East Limington bridge sits on the boarder of Limington and Standish and crosses the infamous Limington Rapids. Its location near a recreation area and along Rt. 25 causes it to see a lot of traffic from both commuters and recreationalists.

LD 2186 officially names the Canal Bridge in Standish. The Canal Bridge spans the Presumpscot River Canal. The Town of Standish would like signage to distinguish this bridge and aid in navigation. This bridge is on Rt. 35 and sees a lot of traffic each day from both commuters and visitors exploring the Sebago Lake Region.

The Canal Bridge spans a section of the Cumberland Oxford Canal. Completed in 1830, this canal followed the Presumpscot River before diverging in Westbrook to flow towards Portland Harbor. The 27 locks on the canal, in addition to the lock on the Songo River, made it possible to transport goods from Harrison to Portland by boat.² The naming of the bridge after this canal is a great way to highlight the Sebago Lake Region’s history of innovation and economic development.

For these reasons I urge you to support these bills. I am happy to take any questions you may have.

² lifestyles.thewindhameagle.com/2021/08/a-matter-of-historical-record-linking.html

SPONSOR'S AMENDMENT

LD 2186, "Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Place Signs on the Canal Bridge in the Town of Standish"

Amend the bill by striking the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Name a Bridge in the Town of Standish the Canal Bridge'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Bridge in Standish named. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall designate Bridge 2123 on Chadbourne Road in the Town of Standish the Canal Bridge.'

SUMMARY

This amendment directs the Department of Transportation to designate Bridge 2123 on Chadbourne Road in Town of Standish the Canal Bridge.