

My name is Christopher White and I am the Trailmaster for the Skowhegan Area ATV club. Not only am I an ATV club member I am also a Landowner who has trails on my property family member of Wyman blueberry corporation a main guide, avid hunting, fishing, and backwards, camping, taxpayer of Maine.

With this new bill that is being considered, there are many side pieces to this that have not been strongly considered first off Landowner's. Many large corporations, wood companies, blueberry companies, and others who own thousands of acres in the state of Maine are all saying they will close their land if this is passed. This does not only close it to the ATVs in Maine and the Tourist who are coming here. This also closes it to all people hunting fishing and camping on these properties. This is taking away the main thing that Maine has been built on our use of private land for public enjoyment by taking this away we will lose millions of dollars in hunting fishing and camping tourist.

Secondly, the weight limit has not had any input from the Land owners, and I feel that it would be in our best interest as a state to form a chair committee and bring these Landowner's in that are saying they will close their land and take a couple of years to work with them. Yes, manufacturers are building bigger machines and I can see some reasons why bigger machines are needed, but overall, Maine was built on an ATV community with only limited trails in the last 20 years. We have not worked our butts off to build the Trail system that we have now just to lose it over something with such poor thought and consideration to Landowner owners. The fact of making different levels of riding with different weight restrictions in with limits is absolutely absurd. If we put this onto our game wardens then at that time, we are asking them to do more with the least amount of resources of any law-enforcement branch in our state. Our resources are already stretched, thin enough. We have the least amount of game wardens of any other state in the country who has ATV in and we ask more of them because our land is not publicly owned by the state it is all privately owned, and we are asking them to Police privately own Land.

The handicap portion of this bill Needs to be looked at in further discussion before it is passed so that we as a taxpayer know whether we've qualify for a handicapped exemption or not it is my personal opinion that somebody with a handicapped exemption needs to be aware of the risks going out there a larger machine is not going to help them be safer or drive better or any such item like that.

In short, we all come to Maine to ride our ATVs be out in the weather the mud, the bugs, the rain, the heat, the humidity whatever it is that is what ATV has been in. Should continue to be don't get me wrong. I love the idea of having AC in heat in all of these other things, but I do not need it when I'm out enjoying myself in the north woods in our land owners should not have to pay for something that we do not need. If it is too hot for you or too cold for you then that is a Good indication that maybe today is not the day to go Riding. It is my Hope that all of you will take a look at where we were 20 years ago when the state had fewer than 500 miles of Trail only 14 clubs I believe and no intersecting trail systems to go from north to south or east to west. It is on the backs of our volunteers our Trail Masters in the fundraising that they have done over the years to make this a real reality and to tell them all that their work was for nothing to up this weight limit putting bridges wetlands in other things in to harm we are

going to do more damage to our Trail systems than what is being considered. Thank you for your time.

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