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Testimony of Representative Kristi Mathieson presenting
**LD 2214, An Act to Confirm and Finalize the Boundary Between the
Town of Kittery and the Town of York**
Before the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Good morning, Senator Baldacci, Representative Salisbury and members of the State and Local Government Committee. I am Kristi Mathieson representing House District 151, which is Kittery. Thank you for your time today. It is my honor to present to you **LD 2214, An Act to Confirm and Finalize the Boundary Between the Town of Kittery and the Town of York**.

For more than a century, Kittery and York have operated under a boundary line that differs from the vague and inconsistently mapped descriptions created in the 17th century. In 2019, York raised concerns that the historic 1653 boundary did not align with the long-accepted modern line. In response, both towns jointly funded a professional survey and engaged in several years of negotiation to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

The municipalities have now agreed on a final boundary adjustment that transfers approximately four acres of largely undeveloped land to Kittery. Both towns have formally approved identical resolve language and are jointly requesting legislative confirmation to provide final and legal clarity for both communities.

In the First Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature, Senator Lawrence introduced LD 1196, directing the towns to work together to resolve this issue. That bill was voted Ought Not to Pass in the State and Local Government Committee with the clear expectation that the municipalities would collaborate independently. They have done exactly that, and LD 2214 reflects a cooperative, good-faith resolution. I hope the committee will agree that this is the right moment to bring this longstanding disagreement to a close. Both towns have invested significant effort in reaching a fair and mutually acceptable outcome. If the committee is willing, I also request adding an emergency preamble so the towns can benefit from this resolution as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.