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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE (IF&W)
OPPOSED TO LD 350**

LD 350 Resolve, To Reconvene the 2019 Task Force on All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Initiative

March 9, 2026

Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and members of the Joint Standing Committee of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, my name is Matthew Foster, and I am the Supervisor of the ATV Program in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF). I am speaking today on behalf of DACF in opposition to LD 350, which has an amended title: *Resolve, To Reconvene the 2019 Task Force on All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Initiatives*.

Considering the nearly 2-year deliberations of the 2019 ATV Task Force, the recent informative Report Back on LD 1308, and the useful work of the Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife's (DIFW) Landowners and Sportsman Relations Advisory Board (LORAB), DACF respectfully believes that another ATV Task Force would be time-consuming, inefficient, and redundant. Re-establishing the ATV Task Force could entail significant costs to taxpayers and consume a substantial amount of staff time from both DACF and DIFW. DACF feels that LORAB would be better suited to reviewing the recent ATV issues, and that limited staff time would be better spent working hand in hand with landowners and clubs and enforcing laws.

DACF recommends that the Committee rely on LD 276, as amended, and take positive steps to correct ATV registration issues. Additionally, we recommend that the LORAB work closely with ATV dealers, statewide ATV associations, ATV clubs, landowners, and other interested parties regarding ATV use over the coming year, and request that findings be reported during the next legislative session.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have now or at the work session.

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