

My name is Ryan Daigle, and I am the Director of Sales of Freightliner of Maine, Inc. in Bangor, Maine. I am writing to respectfully request that the Committee adopt an amendment to LD 2211 that provides a commercial vehicle carve-out that previously passed the House and Senate as part of LD 1228.

Last year, the Legislature carefully considered the potential unintended consequences of policy changes on Maine's commercial vehicle industry and took deliberate action through LD 1228 to prevent harm to commercial truck dealers, fleet operators, and the small businesses and municipalities that rely on these vehicles. That legislation reflected a thoughtful balance between policy goals and the operational realities of the commercial vehicle marketplace.

LD 2211, as currently drafted, risks undermining that balance by allowing working group recommendations to be applied in a way that would negatively impact the commercial vehicle sector. Without a clear statutory carve-out, the industry could face regulatory uncertainty, increased compliance burdens, and supply disruptions that would ultimately affect Maine businesses, public safety agencies, contractors, and consumers.

Commercial vehicles operate in a fundamentally different market than light-duty consumer vehicles. They are purpose-built, ordered to specification, and essential to infrastructure, construction, public works, emergency response, and goods delivery throughout our state. Policies that do not account for these distinctions can unintentionally restrict access to critical equipment and increase costs across Maine's economy.

The Legislature already recognized these concerns when it passed LD 1228. The requested amendment to LD 2211 would simply ensure consistency with that prior legislative intent and avoid reopening issues that were settled last session.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to adopt an amendment to LD 2211 that explicitly preserves the commercial vehicle exemption established in LD 1228.

Thank you for your time and consideration.