

Joseph Kubetz  
Portland

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LD-17  
Portland, Maine

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, and Honorable Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

My Name is Joseph Kubetz, of Portland, and I would like to offer my support to LD 17, the Non-Medical Transportation Bill. I am very much in favor of this bill.

I would like to begin by posing a simple question:

Have you ever been without transportation?

From my own experiences, it can be challenging to get by when our wheels - our vehicle -- are not working. All of a sudden, we cannot get milk. Or toilet paper. A pharmacy prescription filled. And the list goes on and on.

This bill is called the Non-Medical Transportation bill -- but I have heard someone term this "Health and Wellness Transportation."

This is an important factor to understand. This bill would help to keep people well - which is important in and of itself. It may also keep bigger, more challenging issues at bay, by keeping these same fellow Mainers well and healthy, and connected to the resources and support that they need.

This important bill would also work to restore the reliability of this transportation system for Mainers who depend upon it. This ride system changed approximately eight years ago, and it lost its reliability. We need to restore that reliability for people who are counting on it.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Joseph