

**TESTIMONY OF
Brian Parke
L.D. 60, “An Act to Allow Employees to
Request Flexible Work Schedules”**



Good afternoon, Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and members of the Committee on Labor. My name is Brian Parke and I am the President and CEO of the Maine Motor Transport Association and a resident of Brunswick. The Association is comprised of more than 1,800 member companies, whose employees make up a large portion of the more than 34,000 people who make their living in the trucking industry in Maine.

I am here today to testify in opposition to LD 60.

To be clear, our members value their employees and, as such, coordinate flexibility in their schedules whenever possible. Trucking is just like every other blue-collar profession in Maine and around the country – we have significant workforce challenges and employee retention is just as important as new employee attraction.

We contend most employers are already making such considerations whenever an employee requests flexible work schedules and that this bill is a solution in search of a problem. It sets up the potential for unnecessary conflict by being overly prescriptive with a process that must be strictly followed, with any deviation being considered “retaliation” and penalties recovered through a civil action.

This bill is unnecessary at best and at worst it can be used as leverage by employees who are undergoing unrelated disciplinary proceedings when there might be other performance issues at play.

We respectfully ask that you oppose LD 61.

Thank you for your consideration and for allowing us to submit written testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions the committee has throughout this process.