



March 16, 2023

Testimony in Opposition to LD 620, 662, 894

Good afternoon Committee Chairs Senator Nangle and Representative Stover, and members of the Committee on State and Local Government. My name is Angela King and this testimony is submitted on behalf of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine opposes these preemption bills. Traditionally, preemption is a neutral legal policy tool to avoid conflicting laws across different levels of government. However, these three legislative bills are being used as a legislative tactic to remove the regulatory power of municipal governments that want to improve public health and advance environmental solutions.

Municipalities engage residents on initiatives that address issues of public concern. Restricting tobacco products, and restricting energy systems that pollute the environment are laws that municipalities should not be prohibited from making and implementing for the benefit of their communities.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine is the statewide organization that advocates for bicyclists and pedestrians. We work to make Maine better and safer for bicycling and walking to encourage active transportation and to improve environmental and public health.

For these reasons, we urge the Committee on State and Local Government to oppose and vote against passing the bills, LD 620, 662, and 894.

Thank you for your time and service to the people of Maine.

Sincerely,

Angela King
Advocacy Manager
Bicycle Coalition of Maine