

RE: Written Testimony related to LD 1687;

**An Act to Improve Geographic Information System
Data Acquisition and Maintenance**

Maggie Hood, Clerk for the Committee on State & Local Government

Dear Ms. Hood,

Please ensure that committee members receive these remarks in time for them to read them before their meeting this week.

Thank you so very much for your help!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Kelly Bellis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

V. Kelly Bellis, Maine PLS #2099
17 Union Street
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RE: Written Testimony related to LD 1687;

An Act to Improve Geographic Information System Data Acquisition and Maintenance

To the Committee on State & Local Government of the 131st Maine State Legislature:

Dear Ms. Stover, Mr. Nangle and the Members of the Committee,

This testimony is in favor of LD 1687 and to applaud the efforts of its presenter, Ms. Grohoski, all of its cosponsors, and every one of those legislators that have openly endorsed it.

Maine's GeoLibrary needs more than backstop funding measures, which thankfully LD 1687 provides, because so many of Maine's vital services are dependent on up-to-date spatial information. The GeoLibrary needs to be recognized as the **Apex Data Provider and Steward** of our spatial data; the data upon which E911, Fire, Police and EMT services rely on daily.

Beyond the daily needs for indispensable accurate and timely spatial information, looms an ever increasing need as rapid changes to our climate require informed decision making in the new paradigm of hydrology in civil engineering, to name just one facet of engineering, health and bio-related systems dealing with these environmental shifts.

A unanimous ought-to-pass for LD 1687, will be very much appreciated indeed, but please continue to think about long term funding solutions for the GeoLibrary.

As a professional land surveyor and Hancock County resident, consumer, and producer of spatial data for more than 35 years, I thank you so very much for your help!

Kind regards,



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