



Mark W. Lawrence
Senator, District 35

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House
Station Augusta,
Maine 04333

Testimony of Senator Mark W. Lawrence introducing

***LD 1196, Resolve, to Require the Towns of Kittery and York to Develop a Boundary Description
Before the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
April 2, 2025***

Chair Baldacci, Chair Salisbury and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, my name is Mark Lawrence. I am the State Senator from District 35 in southern York County, proudly representing Eliot, Kittery, Ogunquit, South Berwick, and York. I am here to introduce [LD 1196](#), Resolve, to Require the Towns of Kittery and York to Develop a Boundary Description.

Working with Kittery Town Manager Kendra Amaral and York Town Manager Peter Joseph respectively, I present this bill after a town line boundary discrepancy between Kittery and York was revealed in a development approval in Kittery a few years back. Action was taken to settle this dispute in York County Superior Court. However, it was dismissed after Judge Douglas stated that an official boundary inspection was required first.

In an effort to settle this neighborly dispute, the towns agreed to jointly petition this body, the Maine Legislature, to reach a compromise and determine the current town borders. This resolve requires the Town of Kittery and the Town of York to jointly develop a description, in metes and bounds, of the boundary between the two towns based on the assessing maps in each of the towns.

From there, the towns are required to jointly provide the description to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, which may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature establishing the boundary between the two towns.

In my district, we work together to solve local issues with local solutions. In this case, these towns are seeking the authorization from the Legislature to do just that. This committee has the opportunity to enable these two historic towns to settle this dispute and provide clarity for their residents, business owners and property tax payers. For those reasons, I respectfully encourage you to support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring this legislation forward. I am happy to answer any questions you may have or bring additional information to the Committee for the work session.

