



Senator Ned Claxton
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207)287-1515

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Testimony introducing LD 312, “An Act To Extend the Use of Maine Bicentennial Registration Plates through 2021”

Joint Standing Committee on Transportation

Senator Diamond, Representative Martin, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, my name is Ned Claxton, and I represent Senate District 20, which includes Auburn, Minot, Mechanic Falls, Poland and New Gloucester. I am here today to introduce LD 312, **“An Act To Extend the Use of Maine Bicentennial Registration Plates through 2021.”**

A constituent approached me with the idea of extending the use of his Bicentennial plates through 2021. He felt that since we hadn’t really been able to celebrate our great state’s 200th birthdate, extending the use of the Bicentennial registration plates through another year would be a good idea. His hope was and is that some of the planned celebrations will take place this year. He has one of the plates, is proud of it and wants to continue to show it off.

I support his enthusiasm and offered to submit this bill.

My understanding is that there will be a need to make some minor language changes in the bill as it stands now, and I welcome any suggestions to make it read properly. You will be hearing from Steve Ashcroft, the Director of Vehicle Services for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The Department has a wording change that will help make the intent of the bill clearer. The suggested wording is fine with me and I will be happy to submit an amended version if that would be helpful.

Thank you for your time, and I welcome any questions you might have.