



March 16, 2021

Testimony in OPPOSITION of LD 712 - An Act To Eliminate the Requirement for an Inspection for a Noncommercial Vehicle Less Than 20 Years Old

Good afternoon Senator Diamond, Representative Martin, and members of the Committee on Transportation. My name is Angela King and this testimony is on behalf of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine is the statewide organization that advocates for bicyclists and pedestrians. We work to make Maine better for bicycling and walking, and to protect the safety and rights of vulnerable users of the public ways.

The Bicycle Coalition opposes LD 712. Motor vehicles of any age can have functional problems. For this reason, vehicle inspections are beneficial. First and foremost, a vehicle inspection is important not only to ensure that the person driving the vehicle is safe, but also to ensure that everyone else on the road is safe as well. Functioning brakes, good tires, and working windshield wipers and lights are basic equipment every vehicle on the road needs to have to protect public safety. A vehicle defect found during an inspection could save a life.

And there are financial benefits to a vehicle inspection. Inspections are known to extend the life of a vehicle by alerting the owner of a problem. Regular maintenance prevents larger, more costly repairs, and can save a vehicle before it is damaged beyond the point of repair. So what may seem like an unnecessary cost, can actually save money in the long run.

For these reasons, we urge the committee to recommend an Ought Not to Pass report for LD 712.

Thank you for your time, and for your service to the state.

On behalf of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine,

Angela King
Advocacy Manager