Leslie Ohmart Brewer

I am writing to show my support for LD 1230, An Act To Enhance Traffic Safety with Regard to the Operation of Bicycles on Public Ways. One of my many outdoor activities is bicycling on our roads and have done so both as a form of transportation from Brewer to Old Town and Bangor as well as recreationally as far away as Brewer to Blue Hill. I have done so for over 40 years and probably logged hundreds or possibly even thousands of miles. Thus I consider myself an experienced bicyclist. During these many years and miles I have observed the inherent dangers of bicyclists riding two or more abreast. I have witness crashes of bicyclists accidentally hitting each other due to wind gusts, avoiding road debris, or just plain inattention. I have also witnessed near misses of overtaking motorists striking a bicyclists or oncoming traffic. Requiring bicyclists to maintain a single file should be required at all times, just as it is for motorcyclists to ensure the safety of all who pass on our public ways. LD 1230 is a very good step in this direction. I submit that there is absolutely no benefit to the public of allowing bicyclists to ride abreast. Allowing them to do so only presents a danger to themselves, fellow bicyclists, and all others on the public ways. Please vote for this bill and make our roads safer.