



STATE OF MAINE
Department of Public Safety
Maine State Police
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Augusta, Maine
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JANET T MILLS
GOVERNOR
MICHAEL SAUSCHUCK
COMMISSIONER

COL. JOHN E COTE
CHIEF
LTC. WILLIAM S HARWOOD
DEPUTY CHIEF

Written testimony of Colonel John Cote
Maine State Police
Department of Public Safety

In Support of (LD 537)

**“An Act To Dedicate Sections of Maine's Interstate
Highway System to Fallen State Troopers”**

Sponsored by Senator Diamond
Transportation Committee

Senator Diamond, Representative Martin and other distinguished members of the joint standing committee on transportation. I am representing the Maine State Police and the Department of Public Safety providing written testimony in support of to LD537, “An Act To Dedicate Sections of Maine's Interstate Highway System to Fallen State Troopers ”.

In the 100-year history of the Maine State Police, twelve Maine Troopers have given their lives in the line of duty as they worked to protect and serve the citizens of Maine. Their names are etched into the granite panels of memorials in Augusta and Washington, DC, and a few local memorials serve as a reminder of these members and their ultimate sacrifice.

This legislation directs the Department of Transportation and Maine Turnpike Authority to erect signs on the I-95 corridor as a dedication and memorial for our fallen members, now and in the future. While we pray we never add to the Honor Roll of our agency, we do support this proposed program as a way to remind travelers of the sacrifices of our fallen and their families. Understanding this may result in a small fiscal note, we hope the committee will determine the costs are small compared to the brave and honorable actions of our Troopers who gave their last full measure serving others.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John E. Cote".