

Good afternoon. My name is Patrick Conlon and I'm a resident of York County in the City of Biddeford.

I am here to testify in complete support of LD 527. The street I live on in Biddeford is posted 30mph and all the other streets in this neighborhood are posted 25 mph. I've spoken to the Biddeford City Council and asked multiple times for the speed limit to be lowered to 25 but I get nowhere. Since the speed limit is posted at 30 mph most cars are going closer to 40 because it's common knowledge that the police rarely pull people over for speeding until they are going at least 10 mph over the limit. My street is completely residential with only one "business" on it and cars are traveling 35-40-45 mph. Guess what the one business on my street is? It's an amazing and very busy youth center. I think it's only a matter of time before some innocent young person is run over trying to get to the youth center. It's insane. Municipalities need to have more control over their own local roads that their local citizens know and understand because they live here. The Maine Department of Transportation needs to untie the hands of local control over local streets for the sake of real safety improvements that don't take years to implement.

Thank you for listening.