

April 12, 2023

To: Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and Honorable members of the committee

From: Boston Cochrane

Re: Testimony in Support of Resolve, to Promote Passenger Rail for Commuters, LD 1170

My name is Boston Cochrane and I go to school at Thornton Academy in Saco.

I am writing as a student to urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 1170.

As a young Mainer, I want a future that has minimized the impact of climate change and a future that has made transportation affordable and accessible. First, transportation is the leading contributor to carbon emissions in Maine. Creating passenger rail that citizens can rely on reduces the necessity of a car to commute. Less cars on Maine's roads means less carbon emissions, which means a cleaner environment for Mainers now, and generations to come. In addition to environmental benefits, LD 1170 would allow for accessible passenger rail that is affordable for citizens. Transportation that serves the community is what I want to see in Maine's future. As a young Mainer, I want to see changes made to limit the impacts of the climate crisis and I want to have confidence in Maine's future. Accessible and affordable passenger rail is progress towards a clean and community-driven future in Maine.

Respectfully submitted,

Boston Cochrane