

Myles Harrison  
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LD 860

#### Passenger Service Rail Testimony - Myles Harrison

Hello Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and members of the Transportation Committee,

My name is Myles Harrison, and I'm a high-school student from Bangor, Maine. I am speaking here today to express my strong support for LD 860 and passenger rail and its potential to stimulate economic growth as well as its popularity among young people.

As a young person myself who is looking at college in the future I, along with many others, would love a train system that runs from Portland to Bangor that is both convenient and accessible.

As the next generation of workers, students, and community members, young people are keenly aware of the importance of sustainable transportation options and the need for reliable, affordable, and convenient transportation choices.

Passenger rail has become increasingly popular among young people, who appreciate its many benefits, including its environmental sustainability, affordability, and convenience. Students out of state who don't have a car or students who can't pay for a car would love the idea of a passenger rail service. Passenger rail can help young people travel to school, work, and social events, reducing car needs and promoting more sustainable transportation choices. Furthermore, passenger rail offers a reliable and efficient mode of transportation, reducing traffic congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions.

With the popularity among the young people also comes an increase in economic growth.

Passenger rail infrastructure investment can create jobs, improve transportation connectivity, and support local businesses, leading to economic growth and prosperity.

Expanding passenger rail services can create jobs in a range of industries, from construction and engineering to manufacturing and operations. These jobs can provide stable employment opportunities and help to support local economies.

Passenger rail can improve transportation connectivity, making it easier for people to travel to work, school, and other destinations. This can help to attract new businesses and investment to areas served by passenger rail, promoting economic development and growth.

In conclusion, investing in passenger rail infrastructure is not only a smart economic choice but also a vital step toward meeting the transportation needs of young people. By expanding passenger rail services, we can help to promote more sustainable transportation choices and build stronger, more connected communities for future generations.

Thank you for your time. Do you have any questions?