

Testimony re: LD 511, Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and members of the Transportation Committee

I support the adoption of LD 511, **Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council.**

I have been following the effort to build the Casco Bay Trail since it was first proposed. I have followed the progress (or lack thereof, no fault of the volunteers). I have learned more than I wanted to know about all the steps to gain approval from the Legislature. I never knew what a RUAC meant, but now I do, unfortunately.

I have looked forward to riding my bike on the Trail so that I can spend less time riding on the road, hoping that each passing vehicle will miss me *and* avoid a crash with the oncoming car in the other lane.

I turn 83 the day after this hearing. If the bill doesn't pass this time, I may not live long enough for the trail to be actually built. I don't want my last words to be, "If only I had gotten to ride the Casco Bay Tra..."

William Richards  
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