

Robert Caverly
Chelsea
LD 610

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee, my name is Robert Caverly and I live in Chelsea. I am offering this brief testimony in support of LD 610, Resolve, to Designate a Portion of Route 234 in the Town of New Vineyard and the Town of Anson in Honor of Corporal Andrew L. Hutchins.

I did not have the honor of knowing Corporal Hutchins, but I know his uncle Chirstopher Hutchins. I grew up in Clinton and attended Lawrence High School where Mr. Hutchins taught for many years. Mr. Hutchins was a Social Studies teacher and was a beloved by many students, including some who never took any of his classes, including me. His impact on the school went way beyond the students he taught.

I had graduated Lawrence prior to Corporal Hutchins' service to our nation, but I remember the outpouring of support for the entire Hutchins family when Andrew was killed. As years went by, I have never forgotten Corporal Hutchins and the service and sacrifice he and his family made to our nation. I started working at the State House in November 2010, at that time there was an annual ceremony that would open the memorial to Maine's fallen servicemembers from the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. To this day, I remember seeing Corporal Hutchins "dog tag" in the display. I believe you can still see his name in the Hall of Flags Memorial amongst Maine's other fallen.

While I do not need LD 610 to remember Corporal Hutchins and his family, I know that by enacting this bill it will help keep Andrew's memory alive and the courage and sacrifice he and his family paid. This is a great way to remember not just this life that was lost way too soon, but every other Maine family that has paid the similar price for our freedoms.

Thank you for considering LD 610 and I urge the committee to vote ought to pass on this bill.