

Jonna Carter
Brownfield
LD 676

March 31, 2025

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation:

My name is Jonna Carter. I live in Brownfield, and I support extending the Mountain Division Trail through my community and all the way to Standish. I'm a regular user of the initial phase of the trail that runs through Fryeburg, and I'm very excited at the possibilities I believe it will bring to Brownfield and other rural towns along the route.

I support LD 676 because:

1. In 2021, Maine DOT's Rail Use Advisory Council (RUAC) voted 11:1 for the conversion of 31 miles of existing railroad track to an interim trail-until-rail.
2. In July of 2023, LD 404 codified into law the recommendations of the RUAC
3. Over 200 people offered testimony and letters in support of LD 404.
4. LD 676 will allow MDOT to spend federal grant funding on building the trail from Fryeburg to Standish, thereby bringing substantial economic development opportunities to this rural area.

I thank committee members for their consideration and urge them to vote: "Ought to Pass"

Thank you.