

Ken Mortensen
Westford, MA
LD 676

In the current economic environment, ensure that already created rail lines over which freight and passenger service may be provided as a competitive options to road-based options for freight. In addition, many studies have shown that rail transportation provide the best environmentally sustainable transportation for freight over almost any distance. Retention of the rail capabilities also will not compromise the option to include recreational use which is proven through the numerous sections that already have trails beside the rails. I would ask the committee to consider not making the same mistake made following WWII when corporate interests caused the destruction and dilution of the rail network in the New England region (and all across the United States). These rails need to be preserved in order to ensure that the state and its citizen, residents, and visitors can have access to clean and efficient means of transportation.