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*Testimony of Representative Morgan Rielly in support of*  
***LD 115, An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts***  
*Before the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation*

Good morning Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. My name is Morgan Rielly, and I represent House District 127, which includes part of Westbrook. I am here today to support **LD 115, An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts**.

Our working waterfronts are in dire straits. We are down to 20 miles, out of our state's 5,000 miles of coastline, of working waterfront. And we are losing these last miles at an accelerated rate. Increasing demand for coastal properties, coupled with rising property values, has endangered working waterfronts. When a piece of working waterfront property has been bought and developed for another use, it is nearly impossible to recover.

Further, the storms we experienced last year severely damaged many working waterfront properties. **LD115** will tax megayacht owners, who are also contributing to the gentrification of our coastal and island communities and will use those monies to build more resilient harbor infrastructure.

Our working waterfronts should be for those who work on the water and not for out-of-state, rich oligarchs to "summer" in our coastal and island communities. I also reject the premise that making them pay a small tax will lead them to not visit the state in the future.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I urge the committee to pass **LD115**.