

WYMAN & SIMPSON, INC.

Engineers & Contractors

Since 1924

910 Main Street • Rt.197 County Road • P.O. Box 40, Richmond, ME 04357 • Telephone: 207-737-4471 • Fax: 207-737-8565

Senator Tim Nangle, Chair Representative Lydia Crafts, Chair Joint Standing Committee on Transportation c/o Legislative Information Office 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, I am Kim Suhr, President of Wyman & Simpson, Inc. Wyman & Simpson was founded in 1924 and is one of Maine's most long-lived and respected construction companies. We specialize in the construction of highways, bridges, hydro-electric and marine construction. Today, I am writing in support of LD 1804, An Act Concerning Funding and Oversight of Transportation Matters.

For decades, Maine's aging bridge infrastructure has faced increasing pressure from underfunding and deferred maintenance. The MaineDOT Work Plan lays out clear priorities to address this, but year after year, the Department is forced to do more with less—stretching limited funds across hundreds of miles of roads, bridges, and multimodal systems that are critical to our economy and public safety. This bill recognizes that reality and proposes to increase, from 40% to 60%, the percentage of automobile-related sales and use taxes transferred to the Highway Fund.

From the perspective of Wyman & Simpson, stability in funding is not just beneficial, it's essential. When project pipelines are uncertain because of a lack of funding, it becomes nearly impossible for companies like ours to plan for the short, Maine, construction season. We can't commit to hiring skilled workers, ordering materials, or scheduling equipment without knowing whether the jobs will move forward. That uncertainty leads to inefficiencies, higher costs, and missed opportunities to invest in Maine's roads.

LD 1804 is a fiscally responsible way to increase funding for Maine's aging infrastructure and I respectfully request the committee vote in favor.

Sincerely,

Kim Suhr, Owner Wyman & Simpson, Inc



