



**Abbot Explorers ATV Club  
PO Box 168  
Abbot Maine 04406**

**Regarding Hearing on LD 212 Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Greetings Sen. Dill, Rep. Nadeau, and Members of the Committee. My name is Larry Daggett, Club Trailmaster, representing the Abbot Explorers ATV Club, located in Abbot, Maine. Our Club includes the towns of Abbot, Guilford, Blanchard, Monson, and sections of Kingsbury, Maine.

Our Club Trail system is composed of approximately 53 miles of varied off road terrain, completely located on privately held lands. When connecting public roads are included, our trail system expands to approximately 70 miles.

During the past five years of being involved as Trailmaster, **our Club has spent \$42,860.71** to fund the maintenance, repairs, improvements, and unfortunately, relocations of our trail system. Our Club gratefully appreciates the **funding reimbursements, totaling \$29,000.00**, which we have received during this period. However, comparing the numbers you can see **we have spent \$13,860.71 of Club funds** from member's sources. This does not include the countless hours of labor and materials which have been donated by a few members which refused any type of payment. Our Club membership averages about 70 memberships per year, at \$25 per Family, which will provide approximately \$1,750.00 in Club revenue. Usage counts of ATV / UTV units on our Trail system average above 400 units per weekend day, and will approach 600 units on Holiday weekend days. Anecdotal conversations indicate that many of these units do not belong to any ATV Club, and believe that the State of Maine provides the Trails, at no cost. LD 212 will capture revenue from these units to support the Trail system.

Looking forward we are trying to determine how to continue with this Trail system. **During the 2018 season alone, our Club spent \$13,152.64, receiving \$6,000.00 in reimbursement** from the Trail Fund. We share much of our Trail system with the local snowmobile clubs. As a comparison, the Four Winds S.C. in Guilford Maine has 61 miles of Trails. According to the Oct. 2018 edition of the Maine Snowmobiler, the Four Winds S.C. received a reimbursement of \$27,195.00 for the 2017 season.

The Abbot Explorers ATV Club fully supports LD 212, with the hope that this increase will be used to directly provide funding for the ATV Trail system statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our views to your Committee.

Regards, Larry Daggett, Abbot Explorers ATV Club. [Abbotexplorersatv@gmail.com](mailto:Abbotexplorersatv@gmail.com)

