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MAINE

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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 12, 2023

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The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

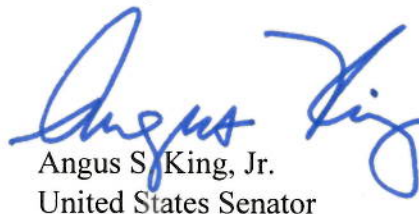
I am writing to express my support for the Maine Department of Transportation's (MaineDOT) grant application for funding through the Federal Transit Administration Low or No Emission Grant Program.

MaineDOT has partnered with seven transit agencies throughout Maine to request funding for low and no-emission vehicles, as well as infrastructure and staff training for transit services throughout the state. In 2019, these agencies provided transportation to over 3.5 million passengers, contributing significantly to the state's economy. Though the pandemic resulted in lower ridership in 2021, the seven agencies still managed to transport over 1.7 million passengers.

The combined agency bus fleet consists of 90 diesel, 56 gasoline, 10 compressed natural gas, and 4 electric vehicles, which are used to operate 46 year-round routes, five seasonal routes, and several demand-response services. To reduce emissions and lower long-term costs, MaineDOT is supporting the seven agencies in acquiring 23 new vehicles, including 12 battery electric buses, 10 electric vans, and 1 hybrid electric bus, as well as chargers and workforce training over the next 3 years. This project will replace 19 fossil fuel vehicles that have reached the end of their useful life and provide improved service reliability, attracting new riders.

Thank you for your consideration of MaineDOT's application to reduce emissions and lower costs for transit services in Maine. I urge your careful review of their proposal, subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and ask that you please notify Adam Lachman (King) at (202) 224-5344 when a final decision has been made.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

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