

Mitchell Exchange
Exchange Trucking LLC

Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Mitchell Exchange and I own Exchange Trucking LLC of Gorham, Maine. I have been working with ReSource Lewiston for 11 years. As my business grew and I bought more trucks and hired more employees, they have been there to accept and process everything from asphalt to insulation to carpet. They also have the tools necessary to recycle what we bring them and make sure to reuse as much as possible.

I submit this testimony in opposition to LD 1639, An Act To Protect the Health and Welfare of Maine Communities and Reduce Harmful Solid Waste. If this legislation were to pass, and ReSource Lewiston were to cease operations, no longer would my business be viable. This would effectively force us to close our doors and put seven full-time employees out of a job.

My company and my trucks bring high-quality Maine wood products to markets all over New England. Once those products have been delivered, on the return trip our trucks move construction and demolition debris to ReSource Lewiston for processing. Without a profitable return trip, it is an empty truck on the road. It's both bad for business and the environment.

In 2020, ReSource worked with the Department of Environmental Protection and the legislature on an agreement to update and modernize the facility to meet recycling goals. In fact, ReSource just made a more than \$1.5 million dollar investment in new technology. But this legislation now proposes to walk back that agreement and potentially put ReSource out of business - impacting not only me, but countless other contractors. Now is certainly not the time to drive out a critical part of the state's waste management system.

I'm confident the committee will consider these matters carefully and I respectfully ask that you vote against LD 1639.