



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## Sheryl J. Briggs

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### To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my very strong support for the Maine DOT 2014 Federal 2014 TIGER Grant for the replacement of the Androscoggin River Bridge #2019 located at North Main Street over the Androscoggin River in Peru-Mexico. Like many States, Maine's current bridge conditions are very poor. With a great demand for bridge repair and replacement and a financial crisis upon us, help from the federal government is critical to the replacement of the Androscoggin River Bridge.

As a member of the Maine House of Representatives serving constituents in Peru and Mexico, I feel it is imperative that we replace our failing Androscoggin River Bridge as soon as possible to avoid the catastrophic failures that have plagued the rest of the nation in recent years.

The condition of this bridge is one of very serious and continuing deterioration. The traffic count on this bridge is 5,819 (AADT) average annual daily traffic...with 9% of this being heavy trucks. Also, school buses cross this bridge numerous times daily following each other back-to-back traveling from school to school! Personally, this scares me tremendously as I see this happening daily! The bridge is a 3-span thru truss bridge that was built in 1930 and definitely not constructed to withstand the traffic of today's world. The bridge has a width of 23' curb-to-curb plus sidewalk with a structure length of 574'. The bridge is in very poor condition with collision damage from trucks as well. It is currently posted for weight limit of 25 tons.

Because of the severely poor condition and safety issues of this bridge, I sincerely hope that you will give this project serious consideration and approval at your earliest convenience.

Thank you very much for your consideration!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sheryl J. Briggs'.

Sheryl J. Briggs  
State Representative