



June 23, 2020

Sen. Donna Soucy
President of the Senate
State House Room 302
107 North Main St, Concord NH, 03301

Dear Senator Soucy,

On Feb. 9, 2004, my sister Maura disappeared after her car struck a tree on Rt. 112 in Haverhill, NH. On behalf of Maura, my family, and the hundreds of thousands of supporters dedicated to finding and bringing her home, I am writing to convey our strong opposition to HB 1255 and any companion bill prohibiting roadside memorials after 90 days of the event being memorialized.

For sixteen years, a blue ribbon has been placed around the tree Maura's car struck before she vanished without a trace. Maura remains missing and this blue ribbon has become a symbol to remember and honor her. Until Maura is found, we have no grave to visit or ashes to scatter. HB 1255 and any companion bill in the Senate will destroy the only sacred place our family and our dedicated community have to remember and honor Maura.

Highway Regulation RSA 236:29 already provides authority to the Department of Transportation to remove roadside obstructions. By passing a companion bill to HB 1255 you will specifically and unnecessarily target and re-traumatize the families of the missing and deceased who will be devastated by your sweeping action to eliminate all roadside memorials without exception.

We urge you to consider our position and kill the bill that would destroy the most sacred place we have connecting us to our missing sister Maura.

Sincerely,

Julie Murray

The baffling circumstances that preceded Maura's disappearance have attracted an enormous, international online following and her case has since become one of the most high-profile, well known missing persons cases in the country. Learn more at www.mauramurraymissing.org.

