



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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May 20, 2015

Greetings to the Honorable Chairs, Senator Baker and Representative Kumiega, and the Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources! I am Representative Roberta Beavers. I am proud serve the people and businesses of Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery in District 2.

Thank you for the opportunity to present **LD 1416 *An Act Regarding Interstate Shellfish Depuration***, as an emergency bill approved by the entire Legislative Council on May 6, 2015.

I was alerted on April 22, 2015, by Lori Howell of Spinney Creek Shellfish Company of Eliot, that the Department of Marine Resources is considering approval of a request to ship Maine shellfish to an uncertified, greatly subsidized (by the state) depuration facility located in Massachusetts. Without some kind of reciprocity law, such approval could put the only depuration facility in Maine out of business - Spinney Creek Shellfish Company. This Eliot company has never requested or received a subsidy for the their business from the State of Maine and have spent much of their earnings to test calm flats all over the state and to develop processes to enable many more flats to be open to Maine clammers.

My grateful thanks go to Commissioner Keliher for his willingness to delay a decision on the request to send Maine clams to Massachusetts for depuration while this bill is heard and worked in your committee and the entire legislature.

Lori Howell of Spinney Creek Shellfish Company will be able to explain the bill in greater detail and the possible need for clarification revisions.

Please support LD 1416 and help keep one of the few businesses locate in District 2, across the Piscataqua River from Portsmouth, NH.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.