

Sinclair, Dylan

From: Ridgely Fuller <ridgelyfuller@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 12:53 AM
To: ACF
Cc: Erin.Herbig@maine.legislature.gov
Subject: In support of LD 620

Dear Chairman and Members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee,

I am writing in support of LD 620, a bill that would amend the existing marine land based aquaculture facilities licensing statute to offer greater protection to single water bodies such as the Penobscot Bay.

Maine's water, both fresh and salt, is its most precious resource, responsible for all the life, beauty and prosperity Maine has and will hopefully continue to enjoy..Our economy and well being have depended on our water, and it is our shared responsibility to make sure our water's quality and capacity is always handled in the most rigorous manner.

It is well known that within the past few years land based aquaculture facilities (LAF) have launched a vigorous effort to expand facilities throughout the world and, especially in Maine due to our plentiful fresh and salt water. Our legislators are making valiant efforts to maintain the pace of stewardship of our water given the hectic pace of development. LD 620 is simply an attempt to acknowledge that Penobscot Bay, for one, faces the imminent possibility of multiple land based aquaculture sites and so seeks to ensure that in licensing each facility the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry will take the combined impact of multiple site waste water discharge into account both in granting and revoking individual licenses if such would contribute to an unreasonable risk to the single body of water such as the Penobscot Bay.

Thank you for your consideration of this simple, timely and common sense revision to our existing statute and for your careful stewardship of our Bay.

Ridgely Fuller
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