

Sinclair, Dylan

From: Block <smblock@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 4:44 PM
To: ACF
Cc: Dodge, Jan
Subject: LD 620 - An Act Regarding Licensing of Land Based Aquaculture Facilities.

Dear Senator Dill, Representative Hickman and Members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee,

We write in favor of LD 620 - An Act Regarding Licensing of Land Based Aquaculture Facilities.

If you think the lobster, forestry and agriculture industries are important to Maine, then you must also understand the value of one of our most precious resources--water.

Though it may seem that way today, water is not a necessarily inexhaustible or renewable resource. Our changing climate may have a lot to say about it in the not too distant future. We must be cautious when requests for large quantities are made, be it from the water bottling or land-based aquafarm or other industries.

We would point out that 20 years ago when one of us (Sidney) was President of the Northport Village Corporation of Bayside, Northport, Maine, the community aquifers went dry. It cost over \$600,000 for this small village to construct a pipe from Bayside to the Belfast Water District. A few years later when certain wells beyond the village area were found to be contaminated with arsenic, additional pipelines were necessary to serve these homes.

We urge you to support this important legislation as well as others that require a careful analysis of our aquifers and other sources of water.

Thank you for your attention to our comments,

Sincerely,

Martha and Sidney Block
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Northport, ME 04849
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This bill will be presented in Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee.
Greeting should be: Senator Dill, Representative Hickman and members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee.