

Andy Pond
Bridgton, ME (summer)
LD 164

Dear members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Andy Pond and I spend the summer in Bridgton, at our camp on beautiful Woods Pond. I am asking for your support today for LD 164: An Act to Fund the Lake Restoration and Protection Fund.

As homeowners (and we consider Woods Pond home as long as the road to camp is open!) we have invested in improving our property--recently getting a LakeSmart award for planting native blueberries and improving landscaping to prevent runoff. We are committed to being responsible stewards to our local environment.

We hope that the legislature will similarly invest in the ensuring that the lakes we love will be there for future generations

Funding for lake protection projects, including implementation of Best Management Practices, replacement of failing septic systems, stronger invasive species management programs, and treatment of lakes with chronic algae blooms are desperately needed to safeguard lake health in the coming decades.

This bill will help protect local economies, outdoor tourism, sporting and recreation businesses, drinking water supplies, wildlife habitat and so much more for all who use lakes in the future.

Thank you for your time and attention