



Skretting North America
15 Saunders Way Ste 500e
Westbrook, ME USA
04092
T. +1 207 591 7077

14 March 2023

Subject: Statement of
Opposition to Legislative
Document 586

Attn. Senator Beebe-Center,

The recent proposed bill to prevent the development of land-based protein production in Maine is not accurate and perpetuates misleading information. The proposed bill does not consider animal welfare or established factual information in regard to complete animal feeds or food safety. Skretting opposes the proposed bill and seeks to refute misleading and inaccurate information related to aquatic nutrition, found or inferred to, in the proposed bill.

Section 1 point 2 Feed sources; composition Feed sources for industrial recirculating aquaculture
11 operations must be free of wild marine organisms, pollutants and contaminants as specified
12 by the department by rule, including but not limited to wild finfish, wild krill, genetically
13 modified ingredients

- ➔ While some species, and life stages, can be fed a diet free from marine ingredients, with no impact to performance or health, some juvenile life stages and some species still require marine content for optimal health.
- ➔ There is no evidence to suggest the use of wild capture marine ingredients has an impact on Maine Fisheries.
- ➔ Skretting, the global leader in fish and shrimp nutrition, does not source marine ingredients from the Gulf of Maine. Skretting sources from sustainably managed fisheries, or trimmings.
- ➔ The arbitrary restriction of marine inclusion would eliminate the potential for circular economy ingredients like herring and small pelagic fish trimmings, from human food production.



- ➔ The term "free of" contaminants is an arbitrary standard which no other food production system is subject to, including the harvested products from Maine fisheries. The FDA, USDA and other regulatory bodies have established limits on contaminants in food and have strict monitoring and food safety program requirements in place.
- ➔ The inclusion of GMO ingredients, listed as a contaminant, is irresponsible and ill informed. Scientific bodies and regulatory agencies around the world including the American Medical Association, the USDA, the FDA and the World Health Organization have extensively confirmed GMO foods are as safe and healthy to eat as non-GMO counterparts.

Skretting supports production of safe, healthy and sustainable protein for local communities. We implore Maine government and communities to refute the proposed bill based on accurate information and support America's domestic food production.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

David Seeley
General Manager
Skretting North America