

Caitlin Marshall
Portland
LD 928

3/16/23

To: Senator Stacy Brenner, Representative Lori Gramlich, and Honorable members of the committee

From: Caitlin Marshall

Re: Testimony in Support of LD 928, a Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Healthy Environment

My name is Caitlin Marshall and I live in Portland, Maine.

I am speaking as a parent to urge you to vote “ought to pass” on LD 928.

As a mother, I know deep in my bones that my most important priority is to provide for my kids. I cannot do that if all of us, and especially those in leadership, fail to protect our fundamental right to a healthy, clean environment.

– Our food supply, the safety of our homes and the stability of our economy all necessarily rest on the natural resources of our state. The Pine Tree Amendment offers the hope that my kids (and yours, all our kids!) will have a livable future here in Maine.

– The PTA would ensure that all legislatures uphold this right. Laws can be made and unmade, but the Constitution is permanent.

– The PTA will strengthen environmental justice by ensuring all communities – regardless of race, ethnicity or income – have the same rights to clean water and air.

I care fiercely for my kids. And I believe all parents do, including those who might often oppose environmental legislation. But the Pine Tree Amendment is a bi-partisan bill with broad support. It accurately reflects our reality today, and is the only truly responsible choice in the face of climate chaos.

We can be cowardly, and pass off increasingly insurmountable challenges to our kids, or we can face the facts that our resources have limits, and it’s up to us protect them for generations to come.

Please vote “ought to pass” on LD 928.

Respectfully submitted,
Caitlin Marshall