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March 16, 2023

RE: Support for LD 693: "An Act to Protect Inland Water Quality, Shorelines, Wildlife and Public Safety by Prohibiting Operation of a Wake Boat to Create an Enhanced Wake Close to Shore or in Shallow Water "

Dear Senator LaFountain, Representative Landry, and distinguished members of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife:

I am a year-round permanent resident on Moose Pond in Denmark, and I am in favor of LD 693. I have a unique perspective on responsible boating; I am (1) an experienced captain of deep-sea commercial cargo vessels, (2) a life-long recreational powerboat owner, and (3) an instructor at a Maine based boating club.

The use of 'Wake Boats' absent this proposed regulation is irresponsible, detrimental, and a threat to both our Maine waters and wildlife. The science and facts surrounding the impact of 'Wake Boats' is undeniable, especially considering the countless lakes and ponds of a smaller size within our state. Erosion, wildlife habitat impact (such as fish spawning beds and waterfowl nesting sites), sediment resuspension, and shoreline erosion are just a few of the adverse effects of unregulated use of 'Wake Boats'.

Passing this regulation will be a positive step forward to protecting our waters for all to enjoy for generations. Maine is a beautiful state for recreation, with nature being the primary draw for visitors and residents like myself. As such, preserving and protecting our natural resources is everyone's responsibility.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I respectfully encourage you to vote 'ought to pass' on LD 693.

Sincerely,



Captain Shawn Hagerty  
Moose Pond, Denmark, Maine