

Doug Kavanaugh
ORONO
LD 693

Dear members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee,

My name is Doug Kavanaugh. I live at Gould's Landing on Pushaw Lake in Orono, Maine. I am asking for your support for L. D. 693, a bill that would prohibit large wake-generating boats from within 500 feet of shore and in water less than 20 feet deep.

I am concerned that the large wakes generated by this technology will hasten the erosion of the shoreline of my property. In the fifteen years that I have lived at Gould's Landing I have noted the loss of at least one foot of land on parts of my shoreline. Gould's Landing is the major access point to Pushaw Lake. We have, then, higher than usual boat traffic. I assure you the 200-foot headway zone is poorly honored, especially by those on jet skis (another large wake-producing watercraft). To encourage watercraft designed to create huge wakes on this shallow lake is folly indeed. Wakes of these proportions will not only further erode the shoreline but flood loon nesting sites and be hazardous to those in canoes and kayaks.

I support L. D. 693 as a common-sense solution to a budding significant problem. It will be far easier and less expensive to regulate this potentially disastrous technology now than pay to mitigate the damages later.

Please vote to support L. D. 693 as a way to assure safe boating opportunities for everyone on our publicly owned Great Ponds.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment on this proposed legislation.

Signed,

Doug Kavanaugh, year-round resident on Pushaw Lake, Orono.