

3/22/23

To: Senator Russell Black, Representative Scott Landry, and Honorable members of the committee

From: Isabelle Rogers

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 Isabelle Rogers, I grew up and currently live in Farmington, Maine.

I've always been amazed by Maine's immensely special and diverse environmental ecosystem spanning from immense forests to coastal shores.

I am speaking as a young voter and activist urging you to vote in favor of LD 928.

The Pine Tree Amendment would ensure that all Legislatures, Governors, laws, and permits will honor the rights we should have to a healthy environment. Laws can be made and unmade, but the Constitution is permanent.

Maine is the most forested state in the U.S. and is home to a diverse ecosystem of wetlands, mountains, watersheds and coastline. Working Mainers rely on all of these natural resources for their livelihood. Fishing, forestry, agriculture, tourism, and ski industries are crucial work sources for Maine people.

There are currently 3 green amendments established in Pennsylvania, Montana and New York, all proving successful. Maine could make history by being the first state in New England to pass this. There is a huge grassroots movement behind this amendment, with hundreds of Maine organizations, businesses, and individuals supporting.

You have the power to make New England history and step Maine in the right direction of environmental and economic protection through an amendment that benefits all Mainers.

As a member of the next generation I *urge* you to support LD 928: Maine's environment must be protected to so we can all live "life the way it should be"

Respectfully submitted,
Isabelle Rogers