

Angie Tehuitzil
Farmington, ME
March 22nd, 2023

In *support* of the **LD928**: Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to
Establish a Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment

Thank you, Senator Stacy Brenner, Representative Lori Gramlich, and honorable members of the joint standing committee on Environment and Natural Resources. My name is Angie Tehuitzil, I live in Farmington, Maine, and I am a Maine Youth Power as a legislative fellow, a youth-led, youth movement throughout rural and suburban Maine fighting to win human dignity, equity, and a livable future for all. I am here today to ask that you support the LD928: Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment (the Pine Tree Amendment testimony).

Upon moving to Maine almost two years ago, I worried I'd miss the state I grew up in and the stunning outdoors from my long hikes, running trails, and camping. But during my time in Maine, I have learned and appreciated the similar yet unique cultural identity of their outdoors. Along with others, I genuinely enjoy living near incredible and beautiful natural landscapes I've encountered in Maine from its woods, oceans, mountains, lakes, trails, etc. Which is why I am urgently asking to pass this bill to ensure no environmental harm, along with that we conserve and protect the land for future generations to have healthy ecosystems.

Maine must also continue to provide clean natural resources such as water and air for the community's health. This is especially important for families that have migrated to Maine and come from a place where proper clean resources were not available.

Lastly, Climate action is highly substantial to youth. They have put a lot of effort into encouraging global environmental change to preserve the beauty of the environment and fighting for a clean state. This bill would guarantee the State of Maine the right to a clean and healthy environment and avoid any threat to our state's natural resources. I, therefore, encourage the committee to support this bill.

Thank you for your time.

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