

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources % Legislative Information Office 100 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

March 22, 2023

RE: LD 928, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment

Dear Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of LD 928, RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment, on behalf of Maine Audubon and our 30,000 members and supporters.

Maine Audubon is Maine's oldest and largest wildlife conservation non-profit. It's a common saying amongst our organization that "when Maine's wildlife thrives, Maine thrives". The legions of advocates behind the "Pine Tree Amendment" tout this extraordinary policy effort as assurance that all Maine *people* will have the right to a clean and healthy environment. We posit that under the Pine Tree Amendment, "when Maine people thrive, Maine's wildlife thrive". It is in that spirit that Maine Audubon brings our support to LD 928.

Indeed, Maine is defined by its extraordinary landscape, clean water, fresh air, natural resources, and biodiversity. Protecting the health of these resources is essential to our collective well-being and prosperity. Maine Audubon is pleased to support this legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sliga Imoghue

Eliza Donoghue, Esq. Director of Advocacy