

Sandra Kent
Fayette Maine
LD 693

March 24, 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,

My name is Sandra Kent, 804.904.7923, s01kent@verizon.net. I am a native Mainer and have a seasonal residence on Echo Lake in Fayette. My family grew up in the area and we have enjoyed the lake for many years, as a child and now into my retirement

I support this bill due to the following concerns with wake boats:

- The real possibility that wake boats will transfer invasive water plants from infected lakes to one such as Echo Lake which is still pristine.
- The erosion and damage to property around the lakes due to the constant bombardment of wakes from passing wake boats – specifically the expense of maintaining Echo Lake road and the replacement or repair to docks.
- Concerns on how the wake boats are impacting wildlife on the lakes; specifically the common loon, who nests very close to the water. The wake boats are most active and prevalent during the nesting season.
- Safety concerns for those swimming, kayaking, canoeing and paddleboarding while wake boats are in operation.

I want to be sure that our lake stays pristine and is a place where people can continue to enjoy the beauty and activities for which Maine is known.

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

Sandra G. Kent