

Doug Kavanaugh
Maine Lakes, board member
LD 2141

Chair LaFountain, Chair Landry, and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee:

I write to encourage you to fully support LD 2141. You each are well aware of the extent and threat that invasive aquatic flora and fauna pose to our waterbodies in Maine. It is well recognized that once "lost" to invasive plants the cost of remediation is great; and often ongoing. The money requested in this bill is small compared to the need.

Clearly, prevention is cheaper than remediation. Containment of existing infestations and controlling transmission from one waterbody to another is one key to success. I am pleased that this bill supports the work of the professionals of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to develop appropriate protocols as needed.

I can testify that the boating public overwhelmingly supports the effort to Clean, Drain and Dry. I am a Courtesy Boat Inspector at Gould's Landing on Pushaw Lake in Orono. I spend most Sunday evenings of the summer, and other times, at the landing. I am welcomed by almost every boater. They all appreciate the effort that is being made on their behalf to keep our lakes clear.

This bill moves the ball down the field. I encourage you to support it.