

Debbie Broderick
Limerick
LD 2141

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

I am writing to express my support for LD 2141.

I live year round on Lake Arrowhead in York County. Our lake is in the unfortunate position of hosting 3 invasive aquatic plant species (Najas minor, Myriophyllum heterophyllum and Utricularia inflata). After being granted permission to use herbicides in 2023 due to the critical need to curtail the spread of Najas minor, a virulent seed producer and spreader, the DEP was unable to treat all the known affected locations due to insufficient funding - selective application of herbicides then had to be strategically confined to the densest and shallowest areas only, as funding allowed. This left some areas where invasive plants were known to be growing, untouched. This piecemeal approach to such an insidious spreader as N. minor undermines the application and funding effort - it guarantees failure. Our lake therefore continues to pose a huge threat to other Maine lakes despite sinking available funds into the effort.

It is vitally important to the continued health and diversity of Maine's lakes that we contain and curtail these threats sooner rather than later. The costs are only going to get higher and our goals less achievable if we do not put money into these efforts early on. To this end we need extra funding to address the urgent need that is upon us - I urge you to support LD 2141

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Debbie Broderick.
Limerick
Lake Arrowhead