

Tom Larned
Kennebunk Pond Association
LD 2101

Dear Members of the State and Local Government Committee,

As chair of the Board of Directors for the Kennebunk Pond Association, I'm pretty certain I can say that all 181 of our members (but one) would agree that this proposed legislation would be a major improvement to Maine's laws to protect our precious lakes.

We, too, had a very rich person come to the pond and proceed to cut down all the trees on his steep, erosion-prone hillside lot, in order to have an unobstructed view of our beautiful Maine waters from his palatial mansion.

Yes, he had to pay a hefty fine for his actions, but, he didn't care. He didn't care about paying a little extra money to do what he wanted and he obviously didn't care about his jeopardizing the water quality with excessive soil erosion.

Our members have worked diligently with York County Soil and Water Conservation District to conduct a watershed survey, a 3-year watershed improvement project, continuing projects yearly with members volunteering to do the work and the pond association matching funds with property owners to correct soil erosion problems around the pond. Maine Lakes Society and Lake Stewards of Maine help educate us all on how best to care for the pond. We can do better with your help.

Then, to see a crime committed such as we did, with nothing but a slap on the wrist, is very dispiriting. Please help us and help Maine's lakes...

We urge you to vote OUGHT TO PASS on LD 2101. Thank you for your consideration and your service.

Sincerely,

Tom Larned, Kennebunk Pond Association, Board Chair