



Cranberry Isles Fishermen's Co-op

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Dear Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee,

I am writing to express support for LD 2225 An Act to Provide Funding to Rebuild Infrastructure Affected by Extreme Inland and Coastal Weather Events which seeks to allocate \$50,000,000 to the Department of Transportation's Infrastructure Adaptation Fund. The Cranberry Isles Fishermen's Co-op supports 25 fishermen and landed 1.92 million pounds of lobster in 2023.

The January storms had severe impacts on the working waterfront throughout Maine's coast. The January 10th storm damaged our dock, floats and ramps which still need repairs as we continue to serve our fishermen all year round. This disaster has left fishing families and local working waterfront businesses struggling, as there are no resources currently available to support the rebuilding process. This makes the passage of LD 2225 crucial to bringing some much-needed stability to Maine's seafood communities and economy.

Please vote in support of LD 2225 and support Maine's fishermen, fishing families, and fishing communities through this rebuilding effort.

Thank you,

Marc Nighman, General Manager