



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

TESTIMONY OF
MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF L.D. 75

An Act to Update Funding for the Board of Environmental Protection

SPONSORED BY REP. ANKELES

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DATE OF HEARING:

JANUARY 27, 2025

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Committee, I am Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, speaking in support of L.D. 75.

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

The Department is authorized to transfer funding into the Board of Environmental Protection Fund from other Department funds proportional to each of those funds' contribution to the total special revenues received by the Department (38 M.R.S. §341-G, sub-1). L.D. 75 would increase the amount of funding the Department can transfer into the account for the Board of Environmental Protection to cover costs for the two staff that serve the Board, meeting room rentals, transcriptions, and printing. All of these costs have increased since the statute was last amended in 2003. The Department has proposed increasing the current limit from \$325,000 to \$450,000 based on a review of expenditures over the last several years and projecting what adjusted annual limit would hopefully be sufficient for another twenty years. L.D. 75 will not increase fees.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on L.D. 75. I am available to answer questions of the Committee, both now and at work session.