

Testimony of Senator Bruce Bickford co-sponsoring

LD 114, An Act to Amend the Charter of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Good morning, Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs and members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. My name is Bruce Bickford, and I represent Senate District 20, which includes Auburn, Durham, Poland, and New Gloucester. I am pleased to co-sponsor **LD 114, An Act to Amend the Charter of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority**.

The Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority (LAWPCA) is a quasi-municipal entity whose mission is to protect public health and the environment by treating the residential, commercial, and industrial wastewaters of our communities and returning clean water to the Androscoggin River.

On their 50th anniversary last year, LAWPCA decided that they wanted a name that focused on the end product of their treatment process, which is clean water. LD 114 would allow the entity to operate under the new name, Lewiston Auburn Clean Water Authority (LACWA).

Because of the way their charter is written, a name change requires legislative action. This change is purely administrative and will allow the Authority to update their business operations, including bank accounts and accounts payable/receivable.

I am happy to answer any questions, but Paula Drouin, Assistant General Manager of the Authority, is present today and is able to answer them.

Thank you for your consideration.