



BACKCOUNTRY
HUNTERS & ANGLERS
NEW ENGLAND

February 3, 2025

Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry
c/o Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: LD 133: An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Nuisance Dogs

Dear Senator Ross, Representative Pluecker, and Members of the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

We, the undersigned, are Maine residents and are submitting this testimony on behalf of the New England Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (BHA). BHA seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting by supporting land conservation, public access to hunting and fishing areas, fair chase, and the sound management of fish and wildlife and their habitats.

On behalf of BHA's Maine members we are testifying against 133 as drafted. While we are sympathetic to the intent of the bill, it provides no exemption for barking by hunting dogs while hunting or during training. Certain hunting dogs such as beagles and other hounds bark while pursuing game and it would be impossible to stop them from making noise at that time. We would also note that municipalities already have the authority to regulate dog noise, and many do, so we question the need for this bill.

Sincerely,

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