

February 9, 2025

FROM: Sue Heard, Seasonal Property Owner in Wayne

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TO: Environment and Natural Resources Committee

RE: **LD 296: An Act to Fund the Lake Restoration and Protection Fund**

I am writing in support of LD296. My family and I are third generation property owners on Pocasset Lake and summer residents. The rest of the year we reside in Nashua, NH.

Our precious water bodies must not fall victim to invasive species of Milfoil, algal blooms, or other invasive plant species. It's already happening in our neighboring Androscoggin Lake and many other lakes across the state. The time is here today. Before it's too late, we must act, or we lose the quality of our watersheds forever.

When voting on LD 296, I ask that you think about the economic impact it will have on the state of Maine if property owners, vacationers, and residents move elsewhere because their beloved lake, pond, or river can no longer be protected and enjoyed for generations to come. In the end, the department of Environment and Natural Resources and the State of Maine will suffer. Please invest the funds now to ensure the state's economic well-being for the future. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sue Heard