

Susan Tinguely
Chesterville
LD 296

I am writing in support of LD 296. I live in Chesterville on Parker Pond. I am a Board member for both the Parker Pond Association as well as 30 Mile River Watershed Association. I am committed on keeping our lakes clean and free from the impacts of climate change.

As a volunteer in the Lake Smart Program and as a Courtesy Boat Inspector I am aware of the impacts that are immediately affecting our waters in the state of Maine. I have seen upfront the impact of poorly designed roads, driveways and landscapes that are vulnerable to the more frequent intense storms that we are experiencing. It is disturbing to see the erosion of gravel and dirt washed into the lakes knowing that that contributes to unwanted nutrients that feed algal blooms.

We have been working for many years fundraising, providing education and assistance to landowners to help reduce pollution and storm water runoff . It has become clearer to me that unless we address these issue in a broader , more global way, we will not be able to stop the damage that is being done. We are aware that there are measures that can be taken to PREVENT further damage to the lakes. I believe that the problem is bigger than what only volunteers and community groups can accomplish. It will take a commitment by the state to be a leader and a partner with the effective work that the many groups have done and want to continue to do. Voting for LD 296 will also have an economic impact. We depend on our clean water as an economic driver in our state. Your investment of \$4 million over 2 year period is a good investment to protect and preserve the \$14.4 million value that Maine lakes provide for the State of Maine.

I urge you to support Bill LD 296. It is a good investment for the State of Maine and it will support the many projects that are actively trying to meet the challenges ahead. Thank you.