

David Fecteau
Limington
LD 77

Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee,

My name is Dave Fecteau. I have owned and operated Riverbend Guide Service for 25 years. I have fished in the Maine inland waters for 50+ years and have seen the good and bad times. I'm in strong support of our state Hatcheries and Biologists. In recent years I have had the honor to work directly with both departments. I am very impressed with the talent and commitment of these individuals, both in the managing and working roles.

So now, I believe it is time to support these groups to the best of our capabilities. I feel if they get the right support, we will see some great improvements in the inland watersheds. With this said, I'm in great support of LD77 An Act to Stabilize and Sustainably Fund the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Fisheries and Hatcheries Division by Increasing the Inland Fishing License Fees and Establishing the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund. This increase will provide direct support to both the hatcheries and fisheries research for our native fisheries.

Now isn't the time to restrict the success of these departments because of the lack of funds. I truly believe the adequate funding of the hatcheries will increase the sales of fishing licenses in the long run, while also helping our Maine fisheries thrive.

Please support the bill to increase the fishing license cost to directly fund our fish hatcheries and research.

Thanks,

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