Jill Maurey South Portland LD 646

Dear Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Jill Maurey, and I live in South Portland near Willard Beach, former home of the famous fishing shacks. I am writing to express my strong support for LD 646 because Maine's waters—and the communities that rely on them—are at risk from stormwater pollution.

As a beach walker, bird watcher and cold water dipper, I see firsthand the impact of stormwater runoff. Every time it rains, pollution washes off roads, parking lots, and other hard surfaces, carrying any pollution on those surfaces which may include bacteria, chemicals, and excess nutrients into this beautiful cove. Due to the runoff, there are days I can't safely enjoy swimming and I worry about the health of those who chose to do so. This pollution isn't just happening at Willard it is an environmental issue affecting the entire coast of Maine. It affects our way of life, our economy, and our health.

LD 646 is a critical step toward better stormwater management. By creating a study commission, Maine can develop informed, effective strategies to prevent stormwater pollution before it does more harm. Addressing this issue now will save money in the long run—preventing pollution is far more cost-effective than trying to restore damaged waters.

I urge you to support LD 646 and take action to protect Maine's waters for future generations. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Jill Maurey South Portland