

James Cote  
Maine Professional Guides Association  
LD 728

Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, members of the committee, my name is James Cote and I am submitting comments in opposition to LD 728 on behalf of the Maine Professional Guides Association.

Our concern stems from the possibility that holding smelts in this fashion may create biological stress on those specific held-smelt, and/or influence local smelt populations.

We understand and support the interest in maintaining compliance, and are happy to work with stakeholders and the Department on strategies to better accomplish this, while avoiding potential unintended consequences.

Thank you for your consideration.