Rebecca Lane Monroe LD 311

Testimony of Rebecca Lane of Monroe before the 132st Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Dear members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

My name is Rebecca Lane, I am a resident of Monroe, and I am writing to you today as a farmers market shopper and community member to express my support of LD 468 – An Act to Address Food Insecurity by Helping Maine Residents Access Locally Produced Food.

I believe that everyone has a right to nutritious food, though lately, it seems some loud voices believe it is a privilege. Through the Maine Harvest Bucks program, I see people able to feed their families with healthy foods and directly supporting our local farmers. Due to the new challenges we are facing as a country, more and more people are struggling to find ways to cut costs. Nutritious food should not have to be one of those difficult choices. By funding this program, many people will not have to choose between healthy dinners for their families or paying a bill. In Maine, 1 in 8 people struggle with food insecurity. Programs like this help combat the problems we face and make our state better. Please continue funding MHB.