

Cameron Reny Senator, District 13 3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony of Sen. Cameron Reny supporting

LD 593, "An Act to Extend Funding for the Land for Maine's Future Program"

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

March 13, 2025

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, I am Senator Cameron Reny, and I represent District 13, which includes most of Lincoln County and the towns of Washington and Windsor. Today, I am here to speak in support of <u>LD 593</u>, "An Act to Extend Funding for the Land for Maine's Future Program."

The Land for Maine's Future program has been used to conserve <u>dozens</u> of pieces of natural land in my district in the decades since it was created. This program supports the conservation of working waterfront, which is vital for fishing and other maritime industries. It also supports land conservation that protects our environment, farms, and wildlife.

Just last year, Land for Maine's Future helped preserve 18,750 feet of working waterfront with 250 feet of shore frontage along Clark Cove and the Damariscotta River in South Bristol. This site, known as Clark Cove Working Waterfront, supports fishermen and harvesters. Without support from this program, that land could have easily been lost to us.

We must continue to fund Land for Maine's Future to preserve access for our fishermen, farmers, and outdoorsmen for generations to come. I hope you will join me in voting to support this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cameron Reny

State Senator, District 13

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Representing Lincoln County and the towns of Washington and Windsor