Mary DiMarco Houlton LD 1073

Testimony in Support of LD 1073 An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act to Advance Health Equity and Improve the Well-being of Vulnerable Populations

Submitted for the Public Hearing Before the Maine Legislature's Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources, March 24, 2025

I am writing to urge you to support LD 1073, An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act to Advance Health Equity and Improve the Well-being of Vulnerable Populations, in order to strengthen Maine's mineral mining laws and protect our environment. We need to make sure we have strong laws to keep out mining companies that come to make money without the commitment, know-how, or resources to leave the land and water clean and safe for fish, wildlife, and humans. Rivers and streams in northern Maine where I live have been declared pristine and we want to keep them that way. Much of this land is on the traditional homelands of the Wabanaki nations and a binding consultation process should be a requirement. We should be thinking, not only of what we need to live at the standard we want now, but of what it takes to leave a healthy place for generations to come. It is important that this law be passed in this legislative session to protect Maine land and water.

Please vote "ought to pass" on LD 1073.

Thank you for your consideration, Mary Beth DiMarco, Houlton