

Catherine Jewell
LINCOLN
LD 1073

Senator and Chairwoman Denise Tepler, Representative and Chairwoman Victoria Doudera, and Honorable Members of this Environment and National Resources Committee. I would like to thank you for listening to my concerns and comments regarding:

*LD 1073

My name is Catherine Jewell from Lincoln, Maine and I am writing in support of LD 1073, a bill that would strengthen our mining protections in Maine. It is widely known that metal mining processes are one of the dirtiest and pose significant risks to workers, the environment, and humans living in proximity to these mines. The casualties of mining can include exposure to toxic metals, air and water pollution as well as environmental disasters such as those caused by storage of waste products in tailing or slurry ponds. This bill would provide baseline health assessments for communities adjacent to mining operations before initiation of mining as well as the opportunity for communities to be aware of possible health hazards. This should be the right of every Mainer. We have been careful in protecting our state in the past with healthy regulations and, with the multiple changes recently in Federal policy we need to step up as a state and provide even stronger regulations to protect the lands of Maine and its' people. Therefore, I strongly urge you to support LD 1073.

Thank you very much for taking the time to listen to my concerns as a Maine citizen and for your continuing work to protect the State of Maine.