

Micaela Ward
Ellsworth
LD 1073

Greetings Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and ENR Committee Members,
My name is Micaela L. Ward, RN, I live in Ellsworth, ME and I am testifying in support of LD 1073 “An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mining Mineral Act to Advance Health Equity and Improve the Well Being of Vulnerable Populations”.

As a nursing professional, a mother, and soon to be a grandmother, with an inherent stake in the health of our beloved Maine communities, it is my opinion that LD1073 includes the measures which best protect public health from an industry which, more often than not, disregards it entirely. It is never good practice to forgo permission yet ask forgiveness after the fact. We know Metallic Mining creates health hazards, and we must mitigate those hazards by pre-emptively detecting them before they reach the level of a sentinel health event for any living being. This includes our waterways.
Thank you.