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HP: 350 LD 531: Regarding Dam Ownership

Sponsored by: Representative Nina Azella Miliken, D-Blue Hill, Senator David G. Haggan, R-Penobscot, Representative Matt Moonen, D-Portland, Senator Nicole Grohoski, D-Hancock, Representative Steven M. Bishop, R-Bucksport.

Committee: Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Chairs: Senator Denise Tepler and Representative Victoria Doudera

Dear Members of the Maine State Legislature,

I am in favor of the Bill.

My grandmother purchased a camp on Toddy Pond in 1957. Kate Spillane's purchase began what has become five generations of families whose lives have been deeply and positively affected by Toddy Pond. Kate negotiated a second camp placed adjacent to her first purchase, allowing the Spillane and Turcotte families greater access to the wonders of Toddy Pond. My oldest brother Ray and his wife Jane purchased a camp on Toddy in 1989. I purchased a camp in 1998, and it is now becoming a year-round home, satisfying my dream since high school of retiring to Toddy Pond.

Since 1957. Five generations, twenty-three families, sixty-seven individuals and many guests at four camps. Five generations of families enjoying Toddy arranging for their time at camp, always a highlight of their Summer and Fall, *every* year. With over five hundred properties on Toddy Pond, I know that we are not the only family on Toddy with such a history.

Removing the dam will end the enjoyment of Toddy Pond, and people will likely stop visiting the camps there.

Thank you to the sponsors of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Turcotte