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LD 531: Dam Ownership  
Sponsored by: Nina Milliken D-Blue Hill  
Committee: Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

### **In Favor of the Bill**

My Name is Terry Curtis Swazey and I wish to strongly endorse passage of LD 531.

For over one hundred years Toddy Pond and Alamoosook Lake have provided superb wildlife habitat, bountiful recreational opportunities and an economic powerhouse for the towns of Blue Hill, Orland, Penobscot and Surry.

The lakes are home to numerous fish species, loons, eagles, Great Blue herons, cormorants as well as beavers, fox, deer, turtles and other animals. Our family has owned property for sixty years and have seen how the lakes impact the wildlife. We have participated in the Audubon Loon Count for 38 years and have seen how the number of loons has been decreasing. They need a pond or lake to live on and not on a stream. The Bald eagle population has increased.

I live near the boat launch on Toddy, located on Route 1 in Orland is one of the busiest in Hancock County and has been more active in the recent years since Covid. Last year our Courtesy Boat Inspection program inspected over 1000 boats which is only a fraction of the boats on the lakes.

Our property taxes covers a large portion of the school and Fire Department budgets.

The local areas surrounding these bodies of water have been working together to find a workable solution. The amount of support for saving the dams have increased tremendously since we received our first letter from Bucksmill LLC.

This can- do attitude and effort reflects all of what's best about our state and its people, and we encourage the legislature to support this bill.

Thank you.

Respectfully

Terry Curtis Swazey

(Add your Name)

