

Ken Morse
Maine Food Policy Work Group
LD 362

My name is Ken Morse. I live in Norway and I co-coordinate the Maine Food Policy Work Group, which is made up of about 100 individuals and representative of various groups. LD 362 was selected by our Work Group as a top priority.

So, I'm writing to ask you to support LD 362, An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Replenish the Land for Maine's Future (LMF) Program.

LMF is a key and effective source of funding for conservation, and protecting water access, outdoor recreation, and for our group, working lands and waterfronts, especially farmland.

Maine agriculture and fisheries are fundamental to Maine resilience in these troubling times. As global systems are increasingly chaotic, it is of growing importance for Maine to produce our own food to feed our children, families and communities.

Supporting working farmland and fisheries is important to this goal, as is disaster relief as climate change threatens Maine through intense heat, drought and storms. Establishing ongoing funding for existing and new land conservation program, including LMF, supports the climate action strategy of the Maine Won't Wait Plan of increasing the total acreage of conserved natural and working lands in Maine to 30 percent by 2030.

Please support the General Fund Bond to Replenish the Land For Maine's Future program.

thank you.