Kevin Roche SOS Saco Bay LD 560

LD 560 Bond support:

As President of SOS Saco Bay, I am in full support of the proposed \$75m bond for Coastal Resiliency. I want to take a different angle from prior coastal resiliency effort support and be specific of where proceeds can be used that create Made in Maine manufacturing activity with needed coastal infrastructure. Our group follows Living Shorelines Solutions, a Gulf Coast installer/designer of Wave Attenuation Devices (WADs), pyramid shaped concrete structures installed to protect shoreline/infrastructure from hurricane force storms. These WADs are now protecting the famous Skyway Bridge in Tampa Bay, allowing sand to come through with incoming tides/storms but harder for sand to recede out from the shore. We envision these WAD's to similarly protect Maine beaches and infrastructure, one model project could be Ferry Beach State Park in Saco for sand gain/acretion. And regardless of location, these WAD solutions need to be manufactured locally at suitable harbors (with related infrastructure support for water transfer). A win/win for jobs and the environment.