

Lisa Munderback
South Portland
LD 1529

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing in support of LD 1529.

Older growth forests once covered roughly 70% of the North Woods and now make up just 3% of Maine's Unorganized Territories. Without action, much of what's left will be gone in 35 years.

Maine's remote, undeveloped ponds support the last stronghold of native brook trout in the US and provide rare, quiet places for recreation. Many are already under development pressure.

LD 1529 takes a balanced approach to protect these natural resources: It directs agencies to create a statewide conservation strategy, improve tracking, and elevate protection through existing programs like Land for Maine's Future and the Land Use Planning Commission's Lake Management Program.

Please vote for this bill.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Munderback