

Bruce Taylor
Sweden
LD 1696

Re: Support of LD 1696

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and Committee Members,

I am Bruce Taylor from the Town of Sweden. I strongly support LD 1696. The issue of water rights is a vital issue for Maine's economy and the prosperity of its citizens. Absolute dominion or absolute capture of ground water allows for unlimited consumption of Maine's most precious natural resource.

The state of Texas currently has absolute dominion and is now faced with shortages and decreased quality of water in both rural and urban areas. This water crisis impacts economic development and the health of its citizens. There are several bills before its legislature to consider its concerning predicament.

Maine is in a prolonged drought and with changes in weather patterns, is facing new and potentially massively disrupting hydrologic changes. One hundred years ago the concept of absolute capture of ground water did not have to consider the effects of neighboring wells and even water supply. As we have seen today, that is no longer the case. Maine, despite being considered a 'wet' state, must also evaluate the importance of our most precious natural resource, water. The effects of decreased availability and quality on both economic development and its citizens health and welfare, must be evaluated.

Please support LD 1696. Water is vital to our states economic progress.
Water is vital to the health and prosperity of our communities and their citizens.

Thank you.

Bruce Taylor, MD

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