

Peter Howe  
Orono  
LD 1696

Dear Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and ENR Committee Members,

My name is Peter Howe, I live in Orono and I am testifying in strong support of LD 1696 "Resolve, to Study Maine's Absolute Dominion and Beneficial Use Laws Relating to Water Rights". As we know, water pays no attention to property lines- and nor do any other earth systems. Property owner claims of Absolute Dominion over water is not only egregious morally but insensible practically. If one neighbor draws the water table down below their neighbors' wells, who gets absolute dominion and who doesn't? What if our neighbor drawing down our wells is a multi-billion dollar corporation like Poland Springs? Revisiting the question of Absolute Dominion over water rights is essential for ensuring that communities in Maine can put our own collective interests before those of individuals or corporations who are either looking to make a quick buck, or just don't care about the rest of us. I urge you to revisit the Absolute Dominion and Beneficial Use Laws relating to Water Rights, for the good of our communities.

Thanks,

Peter Howe  
Orono, Me

(Continue with your own words. Thank you!)