

Diana McLaughlin
WAYNE
LD 1763

I have lived in Wayne for over 40 years and am a Board member of the 30 Mile River Watershed Association and of the Lovejoy Pond Improvement Association.

I am writing in support of L.D. 1763, which would prohibit the placement of Non-water-dependent floating structures (NWFS) on Maine's lakes, ponds and coastal waterways. In some cases, these "floating houses" or "floating camps" may allow users to dump human waste directly into a lake, degrading water quality, and threatening wildlife and human health. A NWFS may be placed in the water abutting a shoreline, negatively impacting aquatic organisms that live in the riparian zone. This is where a home or camp could never be legally built, and it undermines all of the environmental protections that have been part of Maine's Shore Land Zoning rules since the 1970s.

The growing popularity of these structures impacts more than just waterfront property owners; it threatens the beauty, water quality, health and wildlife habitat of Maine's lakes and ponds for all.

I strongly urge the Committee to vote in favor of this bill.