

Richard Thomas  
Waterville  
LD 1870

Dear Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

I would like to ask you to pass LD 1870. Here's why:

In 1977, Exxon's own scientists told them that their activities would cause disastrous climate change. They could have protected us all by starting to invest in renewables, taking a heroic lead in converting to clean energy. But instead, they chose to deceive the public. Currently, they are paying politicians and media hundreds of millions of dollars a year to lie and tell us that climate change isn't a serious threat. They have created ongoing animosity towards renewable energy in conservatives Americans, slowed the transition to renewable energy, and placed climate change deniers in strategic positions of power.

Last winter's climate-change driven storms caused \$90 million in damage to public and private property in Maine. We do not have the resources necessary to remediate these damages. And climate change is only getting worse.

When climate change causes flooding that destroys our homes, or heat waves that send young children and elders to the hospital, someone has to pay for this. It's either us, as individuals and taxpayers, or the fossil fuel industry that caused the problem. I think it should be the fossil fuel corporations. They made sure this would happen, all to keep their profits coming!

Please vote the LD 1870 ought to pass. Thank you, Richard Thomas