

Nancy Anderson  
Cumberland  
LD 1870

Senator Denise Tepler and Representative Victoria Doudera and Members of the Committee,

Living in a Cumberland neighborhood not far from Casco Bay my husband and I are witness to the havoc caused by rising seas and severe storms. Stately white pines topple, crumbling banks of clay and glacial till. Oaks and underbrush slide down steep shores limiting water access and threatening wetlands and tidal areas. The impacts on the working waterfronts and infrastructure of Maine's municipalities are exponentially more dramatic and costly. Towns can ill afford to replace and relocate piers, storm sewers, sewage treatment plants and roads and bridges. Fossil fuel companies such as Exxon, Shell, and BP that are raking in billions leaving Maine communities and businesses to pay for the externalized damages caused by their pollution. Floods, devastating storms, rising sea temperatures, wildfires, droughts and deadly heat waves are occurring with increasing frequency. Like the tobacco companies a generation ago, these companies knew the damage their continued production would cause yet they hid this information and belittled those scientists who tried to inform the people. Holding these wealthy corporations financially responsible for the damage they are inflicting by creating a superfund as Vermont has done will right some of the wrongs they have caused.

My husband and I urge you to give LD 1870 a unanimous ought to pass. Thank you,