

Dear Members of the Maine State Legislature,

LD 1848: An Act To Implement Recommendations for Improved Dam Safety

Sponsored by: Representative Nina Milliken (Blue Hill)

Co-sponsored by: Representative Bishop (Bucksport)

Representative Bell (Yarmouth)

Senator Grohoski (Hancock)

Senator Hagan (Penobscot)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee

I wish to submit my strong support for the above measure. As a property owner on Toddy Pond in Orland Maine, I am very familiar with the challenges faced by many homeowners and communities in Maine with aging dams impounding adjacent water bodies. For the past few years the Maine Emergency Management Agency has lacked the resources to adequately inspect the many “elderly” dams in the state. This has created a potential public safety and public health hazard which should be unacceptable to the citizens of Maine.

Seeking adequate staffing, resources and funding for this critical agency is desperately needed and should be supported by all Mainers. Additionally, having an adequately staffed and funded state agency which could assist local communities and lake associations with technical expertise surrounding dam ownership, maintenance and repair would be serving the public good in an extremely tangible manner.

For these reasons, I strongly support this legislation.

Respectfully

Marc C. Restuccia

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