

To: The Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Re: LD 1870 **An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters**

Date: 5/5/25

From: Pamela MacBrayne

Dear Senator Tepler, Representative Gramlich and members of the ENR:

I am writing to you in favor of LD 1870. I live on North Haven island where I serve on the Board of North Haven Conservation Partners and volunteer as an active member of W.E.B.B. (Water, Earth, Bugs & Birds) Initiative. I also work with several other volunteers to monitor the Wabanaki Shell Midden on the shore of the Turner Farm. I am an active sailor and spend countless hours collecting and removing trash from our islands and shores of coastal Maine. These activities and many others have provided ample opportunities to witness first-hand the devastating impact of our changing climate, brought on by years of extracting and using fossil fuels.

Sea level rise and the increased velocity and frequency of wind events have caused serious coastal erosion, undercutting banks and bluffs throughout coastal Maine and the offshore islands. Saltwater intrusion now threatens the fresh water supply on North Haven, requiring the town to allocate scarce funds to try to protect our fresh water as sea level rise and storm surge continue to increase the threat of contamination. The 6000-year-old shell midden that we monitor has been significantly eroded by the increasing number and severity of Southeasterly storms. In the five years we have been measuring them, the edge of the midden has receded at least eight feet of the six-foot high bluff that extends a hundred feet along the shore.

The impact of climate change and its warming temperatures has had an equally devastating impact on communities in the mountains of Maine who depend on snow to provide outdoor recreational opportunities to both residents of Maine and tourists alike.

The immense damage knowingly caused by the fossil fuel industry has put livelihoods at risk and has required vast expenditures of money to remediate both damage to the physical environment of Maine as well as the health of our residents. Fossil Fuel companies have known for decades about the damage that their operations and products were causing, yet they continually advocated in legislatures across the country for right to destroy our planet while making tremendous profits.

The proposed Climate Superfund legislation, if passed, would begin to remedy the excessive damage and devastation caused by the Fossil Fuel Industry and begin to hold it accountable.

I urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 1870.

Respectfully submitted, Pamela MacBrayne

