Clare Ruthenburg Brunswick LD 1882

I am writing to urge you to support LD 1882!

Years ago I had the opportunity to spend the day learning about vernal pools with Mark McCollough, esteemed US Fish and Wildlife biologist. As a specialist in endangered species, Mark highlighted the great importance of protecting these pools which many folks may simply regard as very large puddles that dry up and disappear seasonally.

Vernal pools provide important breeding habitat for select amphibians like salamanders and frogs and other wildlife. They are important for endangered turtles, dragonflies, and some rare plants. These habitats are typically small, temporary wetlands often less than an acre. Even though vernal pools may only fill with water for a short time in spring and fall, and often dry out by mid-late summer, their ecological significance for wildlife plays a much larger role.

Importantly, the woods surrounding vernal pools are actually where amphibians spend most of their lives. These little creatures are so important in our web of life. This legislation will help better protect the terrestrial habitat surrounding vernal pools.

PLEASE SUPPORT LD 1882. Thank you for your respectful consideration.