

Sarah Greer
Rockport
LD 2094

Dear Legislator,

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 2094, An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support Maine's Agricultural and Forestry Sectors. This crucial \$40 million bond is a vital investment in the future of Maine's economy, food security, and working landscape.

Traditional farming and ranching practices are the backbone of Maine's rural economies. In the last 50 years our small towns and villages have seen an epic decline as commodity agriculture has replaced small farms, forced small businesses to close and families to move away. As a business owner of a farm-to-table retail operation, we are affected by every up or down swing in the agricultural sector. By offering healthy, delicious food that our customers can trust we are part of a movement that is rebuilding rural areas. The farms we buy from prioritize stewardship of the land and their animals. Our holistic approach to retail keeps them and us in business. We believe when you support the economy from the bottom up you build healthy communities and improve the natural environment. We love our community and our community loves us - to the tune of \$3m in sales last year. What a shame if this all went away because our State government can't get the priorities right.

These strategic investments will not only support our hardworking farmers and foresters but will also help Maine move closer to the "Maine Won't Wait" goal of increasing the amount of food consumed in the state from local producers to 30% by 2030.

I urge you to support LD 2094 and ensure that the agricultural and forestry sectors—the backbone of our state's heritage and economy—receive this essential public funding.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,

Sarah Greer

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Sarah Greer
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