

February 4, 2026 -Testimony Supporting LD2141

To: Chair Tepler, Chair Doudera, Committee on Environment & Natural Resources

From: Christopher S. Heard, Wayne property owner and seasonal resident

Dear committee members,

I'm writing today in support of LD2141 to fund efforts to protect all our Maine lakes and ponds.

This bill could help fund in-lake phosphorus reduction treatments, watershed surveys to identify water quality threats, stormwater culvert replacement, and research on emerging threats. It could also help the DEP increase staff capacity to implement best practices. We could a great deal to help protect our lakes with these funds.

Maine lakes are an economic engine for the state. Populations double in the summer bringing taxpayers and customers, allowing local businesses to prosper. Houses are built and renovated, providing jobs for full-time residents. People come to Maine to have a chance to slow down and enjoy life. All of this is driven by the stunning beauty and consistency of our pristine lakes. Funds we invest now in protecting our lakes will provide economic stability and recreational enjoyment for future generations.

I strongly urge you to pass LD2141.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christopher S. Heard
Wayne Property Owner