

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in reference to the LD 2141 bill for support of Lake Water Quality and Restoration.

This bill diverts money from unclaimed bottle deposit funds so will not have any additional impact on existing revenue and spending commitments.

As a long time resident of Lovell Maine, a small community that exists in its current state due to the recreational waters of Kezar Lake and others, water quality is vital to the long-term health of our economy. Myself and others in our community commit a significant portion of their time to volunteer organizations to protect our local waters for the future of anyone who benefits from this natural resource. Our town's comprehensive plan recognizes the importance this resource as an economic engine that drives our economy, tax base and provides a superior quality of life for all who benefit. Kezar Lake and all the other smaller waterbodies in our town are a stellar public resource available to all.

A large portion of our tax revenues are derived from taxes on waterfront properties. Small businesses and tradespeople rely on dollars spent by landowners, vacationers, and other users of our waterbodies. There is a significant multiplier effect that derives from our good fortune to have desirable waters that are owned by the state and available to all. It is only right that the state recognizes the importance and great responsibility that they have for maintaining the long-term health of this significant public resource by committing additional funding when needed and available.

It is important that the state support this public resource with financial resources such as this bill provides for the public good, to be enjoyed by all.

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