

Wendy Oakley  
Mt. Vernon  
LD 2141

I am writing in favor of supporting LD 2141.

Our lakes are pristine, beautiful, and environmentally critical to recreation and tourism in Maine. Our lakes are threatened by pollution, invasive plant species, and climate change. We draw tourists to Maine in part because of the high quality of the water. We live at the edge of Flying Pond in Mt. Vernon, and our (out of state) children and grandchildren join us to spend joyful summer days, frolicking, swimming, paddle boarding and kayaking with us.

In many lakes throughout New England (including Maine), lakes are under siege due to infestations of invasive species. It is very costly to remediate a body of water that has been compromised in this way. We desperately need funds to first, maintain a high quality clarity and purity in our precious lakes, and when necessary, to clean up infested or otherwise polluted water.

I volunteer, serving as secretary of the Board of Directors for FPIA, and as a Courtesy Boat Inspector at the Flying Pond public boat ramp, where we educate boat owners about avoiding the introduction of invasive plants. My husband volunteers as a pond surveyor, watching for suspicious growth. We love this lake and hope that it will remain the gem that it is for future generations.

Please support LD 2141, so that funds are made available to help assure our continued enjoyment of this precious and valuable resource, in perpetuity.

Thank you,  
Wendy Oakley  
Mt. Vernon, ME