

Cynthia Ripley
30 Mile River Watershed Association
LD 2141

Dear Friends,

I am writing today to request your support for LD 2141 to provide funding to support our beloved Maine lakes.

The waters in Maine are not only important for recreation, but for wildlife as well as the economy. There are so many factors, increasing rapidly, that are challenging all our lakes and streams. This bill will provide annual funding that will not come out of the general fund. It will not add any additional cost to taxpayers, but will help us maintain the health and safety of our lakes, ponds, and streams.

Clean, clear water is important to our family. We have summered here for 4 generations enjoying the pristine waters of Flying Pond in Vienna. We, along with countless others, come here to enjoy the clean lakes and surrounding environment. Now, there are more intense weather events and many more people using our beautiful lakes. This funding is necessary to help to protect the waters before it's too late.

I am an active member of the Board of 30 Mile River Watershed Association, where our mission is to work "together with the community for clean and healthy lakes, ponds, and streams in our watershed." As a LakeSmart volunteer, I work to help educate property owners to help prevent lake pollution. I have been a member of the Flying Pond Improvement Association Board for 15 years.

Stronger protections, aided by increased funding, make sense as we work to keep our lakes healthy for future generations. Protection and prevention requires funding. It is far more cost effective than remediation could ever be.

Please vote to support LD 2141 to provide much needed annual funding that will help to protect and preserve our precious Maine lakes.

Thank you