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Brunswick
LD 2187

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

I live in Brunswick and reside on the lower Androscoggin River, which was upgraded to Class B just a few years ago.

I fully support upgrading the upper portion of the lower Androscoggin to Class B, as well. Water quality in the upper-lower portion of the river already meets Class B requirements. Intensive sampling last summer by Friends of Merrymeeting Bay at ten sites in this section of the river showed easy Class B compliance 100% of the time, despite drought conditions. The data is every bit as strong, if not stronger, than the data used to justify the previous upgrade to the lower portion of the river.

When water quality meets a higher classification the law requires an upgrade.

Therefore, I'm testifying in support of LD 2187 with the caveat that a reclassification upgrade amendment of the upper lower Androscoggin River be included.

Clean rivers are the life blood of Maine. Water quality upgrades will benefit all of us, providing a healthy environment and economy and overall improving the quality of life in Maine.

Thank you for your consideration.