

Glenda Beal  
Beals  
LD 2187

Chair Tepler  
Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
Augusta, ME

LD 2187 “An Act to Update Certain Water Quality Standards and to Reclassify Certain Waters of the State” (Do Not Support)

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

As a resident and select board member of the Town of Beals, protecting the future of our fishing industries, small businesses, and the healthy environment we enjoy is a priority. To that end, I would like to urge that neighboring Chandler Bay’s water classification be upgraded to Class SA status. Water testing by the Darling Marine Water Quality Laboratory over the last four years has confirmed these waters meet the standards for SA classification. Currently, Chandler Bay is a healthy marine environment for the diverse life it sustains, making it an area of ecological importance, as indicated by NOAA’s recognition of Chandler Bay as an essential fish habitat. The Bay’s healthy water quality also makes Chandler Bay productive economically for the entire region as harvesters earn livings for their families through lobster fishing, scallop dragging, clam digging, and even seaweed harvesting, to name a few key examples. Pristine beaches in the area draw tourists, positively impacting the region’s vacation rentals, restaurants, and other businesses. Upgrading Chandler Bay to SA water classification will help preserve and protect our area economically and ecologically for the future. Thank you for considering this upgrade.

Sincerely,  
Glenda M Beal