

Holly O'Neal  
Jonesport  
LD 2187

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express to the Environmental and Natural Resources Committee that I do not support Bill LD 2187 as it does not recommend Chandler Bay for an upgrade from SB to SA.

The water has been tested and proven to be SA. The SA waters of Chandler Bay make it a strong source of revenue for local fisheries and businesses dependent on tourism and recreation. Upgrading the bay will help preserve this revenue.

Furthermore, it is a haven for species in vulnerable positions and is regarded as essential fish habitat. Examples include Atlantic salmon, razor bills, harlequin ducks, and purple sand-pipers. Matching the classification of the water to its quality would mean protecting habitat for these ecologically valuable species.

Lastly, Chandler Bay is a cultural resource just as much as it is an economic and ecological resource. It is a place where families go to celebrate the beauty of home and where people from all over visit, coming away with a unique sense of what Maine can be. Changing the classification to reflect the quality of this area would contribute to the conservation of a resource with profound cultural, economic, and ecological value. It is imperative to upgrade Chandler Bay to conform to its proven SA quality status.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Holly