

Heidi Sorensen
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LD 2174

I am deeply concerned about LD 2174 which will be heard today. This bait and switch and use of the "emergency" title appears to be an attempt to eliminate "Home Rule" for the advantage of big cities at the expense of small rural towns of Maine!! The change in language as well as the fact that this is being "hidden" by presenting it as a waterway issue screams misrepresentation!! This bill, as amended, should be presented to the EUC. It is inappropriate to hide it where it is now. There is also the question about the validity of it being heard. It was presented as an "emergency" which got it into the second session. Now the language no longer includes emergency. This alone should remove it from being heard during the second session. The feeble attempt to get this passed includes the removal of the "emergency" designation thereby changing the required votes to pass this bill as well. We know that an "Emergency" bill requires a 2/3 vote to pass while by removing "emergency" now LD 2174 would require a simple majority. This is a poorly veiled attempt to override Home Rule without telling the people of Maine you are taking their rights away!! Overriding town ordinances that have been put in place by the residents to protect their way of life in their towns. We make ordinances to guide development and growth in a manner to protect our farms, rural areas, and forests. What gives the people of Southern Maine the right to DICTATE what happens in other areas? Once again the small towns, who may be lacking financial resources to address and fight for their local rules and the right to grow as they see fit, are being railroaded!!! lacking a voice!!! Thank you for your consideration, Vote NO. -Heidi Sorensen, Thorndike, ME