



February 24th, 2026

Senators Brenner, Bennett, Carney, and Ross, and
Representatives Doudera, Kuhn, and Sato

Dear Legislators,

We are writing to express support for LD 1870, An Act to Establish a Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program to Impose Penalties on Climate Polluters. Bangor's location along the Penobscot River makes it particularly vulnerable to severe weather, such as heavy rainfall events and flooding, which climate science shows are becoming more frequent and intense. Severe storms can overwhelm stormwater and sewer systems, damage roads and bridges, and disrupt essential services. Our wastewater treatment plant in particular is located both within the 100-year floodplain, and within an area projected to be impacted by storm surge under certain sea level rise scenarios.

Extreme heat and drought pose additional risks to our public health, water resources, and local ecosystems, while also increasing costs for emergency response and infrastructure maintenance. Municipalities like Bangor are expected to shoulder much of the cost of repairing roads, bridges, wastewater systems, and other critical assets, even as local revenues remain limited and property tax burdens are high.

Funds could support projects directly relevant to Bangor, such as road and bridge upgrades, strengthened stormwater and wastewater systems, flood mitigation, and nature-based solutions like wetlands restoration that reduce flooding risks. They could also help address resident vulnerabilities to extreme heat, drought, and power outages from severe storms. Without new funding sources, Bangor residents will continue to bear the burden through higher local taxes, deferred maintenance, and increased vulnerability to future disasters.

This legislation would help the City secure much-needed resources to protect Bangor from extreme heat, drought, severe storms, and flooding without placing additional financial strain on local taxpayers. Therefore, we urge the passage of this bill.

Regards,

Carollynn Lear, City Manager, on Behalf of the City of Bangor