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I am writing in opposition to the allocation of general fund dollars to the creation of a Maine Blue Economy Center. The aquaculture industry is currently monopolizing local waters and exponentially increasing the loss of public access and enjoyment of our tidal waters. Whether it is Sea Farms creating fin fish pens or black plastic floating oyster leases, the net effect is that we are granting 20 year leases for exclusive use by a small minority of people. We have seen the impact of industrialized aquaculture who can afford lobbyists and advertising dollars and have raised the attention of foreign ownership of our waters such as the Ontario Teacher's Pension fund now controlling some of the best waters we have in Mid Coast Maine. General Fund dollars should support Maine taxpayers, not an aquaculture industry benefiting the few and the foreign, and able to employ lobbyists for this bill and control over the committee created to expend these funds.