



Russell Black
Senator, District 5

THE MAINE SENATE
131st Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

TESTIMONY OF SENATOR RUSSELL BLACK

LD 1049

“An Act to Protect Maine's Inland Fisheries from Invasive Fish”

Public Hearing: April 24, 2023

Senator LaFountain, Representative Landry and distinguished members of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. I am Senator Russell Black, and I am here today to introduce, L.D. 1049 “An Act to Protect Maine's Inland Fisheries from Invasive Fish.”

I put this bill in at the request of Nels Kramer and he is here today to explain his reasoning behind it.

This bill prohibits the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Marine Resources from authorizing the construction of a fishway or fish bypass structure at a dam on the Penobscot River in the Town of Medway and directs the commissioners to require a vertical barrier at least 4 feet tall in the fishway located at the dam on the Piscataquis River at Brown's Mill in the Town of Dover-Foxcroft to prevent the upstream passage of invasive fish species. It also prohibits the owners, lessors or other persons in control of a dam on the Penobscot River in the Town of Medway and a dam on the Piscataquis River at Brown's Mill in the Town of Dover-Foxcroft from constructing or authorizing the construction of a fishway or fish bypass structure or removing or modifying current fish barriers so as to allow the upstream passage of invasive fish species.

Thank you for attention to this legislation.