



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1400

TTY: Maine Relay 711

Margaret Craven

41 Russell Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
(207) 783-1897

Margaret.Craven@legislature.maine.gov

May 1, 2023

*Testimony of Representative Margaret Craven in support of
LD 1473, An Act to Protect Certain Unfiltered Drinking Water Sources
Before the Environment and Natural Resources Committee*

Senator Brenner, Representative Grmalich and esteemed members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Margaret Craven, and I represent House District 93, which includes part of the city of Lewiston. I am here today in support of **LD 1473, An Act to Protect Certain Unfiltered Drinking Water Sources**.

This legislation is intended to protect the pristine water source that is Lake Auburn. There is a true need for this bill, as an unintended consequence from legislation passed in the 130th Legislature opens up the lake to potential overdevelopment and reduced water quality.

Lake Auburn has been granted a “waiver of filtration,” which the EPA grants to bodies of water that are public drinking sources and have exceptional water quality. Of the 40 bodies of water in the country that have these waivers, **nine** are located in Maine- Lake Auburn, Sebago Lake, Eagle Lake, Floods Pond, Hatcase Pond, Little Pond, Lower Hadlock Pond, Jordan Pond and Aroostook River/Arnold Lake Brook.

This waiver means that local tax payers do not need to pick up the bill on expensive water filtration plants. The water is clean. However, the water quality of Lake Auburn, and these other 8 waterbodies, could be put at risk due to overdevelopment within the watershed because of the bill that was passed last session.

For these reasons, I urge this committee to report LD 1473 “Ought to Pass.”

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I am happy to answer any questions.