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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM  
COMMISSIONER

**TESTIMONY OF**

**MELANIE LOYZIM  
COMMISSIONER**

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF L.D. 75**

**An Act to Update Funding for the Board of Environmental Protection**

**SPONSORED BY REP. ANKELES**

**BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**DATE OF HEARING:**

**JANUARY 27, 2025**

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Committee, I am Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, speaking in support of L.D. 75.

The Department is authorized to transfer funding into the Board of Environmental Protection Fund from other Department funds proportional to each of those funds' contribution to the total special revenues received by the Department (38 M.R.S. §341-G, sub-1). L.D. 75 would increase the amount of funding the Department can transfer

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into the account for the Board of Environmental Protection to cover costs for the two staff that serve the Board, meeting room rentals, transcriptions, and printing. All of these costs have increased since the statute was last amended in 2003. The Department has proposed increasing the current limit from \$325,000 to \$450,000 based on a review of expenditures over the last several years and projecting what adjusted annual limit would hopefully be sufficient for another twenty years. L.D. 75 will not increase fees.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on L.D. 75. I am available to answer questions of the Committee, both now and at work session.