



Committee on Environment & Natural Resources  
% Legislative Information Office  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

January 27, 2025

**RE: LD 75, An Act to Update Funding for the Board of Environmental Protection**

Dear Sen. Tepler, Rep. Doudera, and Members of the ENR Committee:

My name is Ania Wright and I am Maine Audubon's Policy Advocate. Maine Audubon is a wildlife conservation non-profit – we fulfill our mission to “conserve Maine’s wildlife and wildlife habitat” by engaging people of all ages in nature through a science-based approach to education, conservation, and advocacy. On behalf of Maine Audubon and our 30,000 members, supporters, and volunteers, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of LD 75, *An Act to Update Funding for the Board of Environmental Protection*.

We are enthusiastic to support increased funding to support the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP) as they continue to tackle some of the most difficult issues facing our wildlife and wildlife habitat. Whether it be the responsible siting of our critical renewable energy resources, or ensuring adequate protection of our precious wetlands, the BEP covers a wide breadth of complex issues that require careful attention to detail and deep knowledge of our state’s resources. As a citizen board, BEP members are tasked with an incredible amount of work, and we believe that members and DEP supporting staff should be adequately supported.

In order to ensure timely and successful interpretation, administration, and enforcement of our critical environmental laws, it is vital that we adequately resource all work undertaken by the Board of Environmental Protection.

Sincerely,

Ania Wright  
Policy Advocate