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Testimony on
L.D. 77, "An Act to Stabilize and Sustainably Fund the Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Fisheries and Hatcheries Division by
Increasing the Inland Fishing License Fees and Establishing the
Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund"

Presented by
Representative Stephen J. Wood
District 92

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee
Monday, February 24, 2025

Good afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife:

I am State Representative Stephen J. Wood, and I proudly represent District 92, Greene and Sabattus. It is an honor to appear before you today for the purpose of introducing L.D. 77, "**An Act to Stabilize and Sustainably Fund the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Fisheries and Hatcheries Division by Increasing the Inland Fishing License Fees and Establishing the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund.**"

This Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife proposal seeks to establish the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement Fund, which will be used by the Department for the conservation and enhancement of inland freshwater fisheries resources. In establishing the fund, the fee for inland fishing licenses will be increased by \$7, with \$6 of the increase dedicated to the Inland Fisheries Conservation and Enhancement fund. The remaining \$1 of the increase will go toward the Boat Launch Facilities Fund.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Department staff will offer supporting rationale for the necessity of these alterations.