

Stacey K. Guerin
Senator, District 4



3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

**L.D. 552, "An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting,
Fishing and Recreation Businesses Who Are Not Maine Guides"**

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Monday, February 24, 2025

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

I am Senator Stacey Guerin and I am here to present a bill I put in "By Request," L.D. 552, "An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Businesses Who Are Not Maine Guides."

This bill would create an outfitter license for people who own or operate businesses related to hunting, fishing, or recreation but are not registered as Maine guides. This bill forms a regulatory path for businesses that play an important role in outdoor tourism in Maine, offering services such as providing equipment, access, or other support for outdoor activities.

While outdoor recreation is important to Maine's economy, not all businesses need to be licensed as guides. This bill recognizes that distinction and provides a licensing system for businesses offering services such as equipment and access to activities.

The bill also includes a background check requirement for outfitters to help ensure safety and trustworthiness. By establishing the outfitter license, the bill aims to create a clearer system for outdoor businesses that don't need to be fully licensed guides but still contribute to the recreation and tourism economy.

Thank you for your time.