



Russell Black
Senator, District 5

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

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Augusta, Maine 04333

**LD 593 “An Act to Extend Funding for the Land for
Maine's Future Program”
Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture
Conservation and Forestry
March 12, 2025**

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture Conservation and Forestry:

I am Senator Russell Black and I represent Senate District 5. I am before you today to present, LD 593 “An Act to Extend Funding for the Land for Maine's Future Program.”

This bill aims to provide ongoing funding for the Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund. It proposes \$10 million in funding for each of the next two years, totaling \$20 million. As a farmer myself, and someone who cares about Maine's environment and conservation, I strongly support this funding.

The Land for Maine's Future program is key to protecting our state's natural resources and supporting important industries like farming, fishing, and forestry. It has already funded over 300 projects that conserve land for its natural, recreational, and economic value. This funding will ensure the program can continue its important work in the years ahead.

Maine's land is essential to our identity and economy, attracting tourism and supporting local industries. By supporting this program, we're investing in the future of Maine's environment and communities.

I urge you to support this bill to help protect Maine's land for generations to come. Thank you for your time and consideration.