

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Maine State Legislature

Re: Support for HP 241, LD 341 – An Act to Amend the Definition of "Oversized ATV" to Increase the Minimum Weight Requirement

Dear Esteemed members,

We, the undersigned landowners, collectively steward over 40,000 acres and hundreds of miles of recreational trails of land across Maine, and we write to express our strong support for HP 241, LD 341. This bill, which seeks to amend the definition of "oversized ATV" by increasing the minimum weight requirement, is an important step in ensuring that ATV regulations reflect modern advancements and the needs of landowners and recreational users alike.

By raising the minimum weight requirement for "oversized ATVs," HP 241, LD 341 will allow for the use of cabbed vehicles, enabling operators to work in a climate-controlled environment, which is essential for farming and other land management activities. Additionally, this change will facilitate the transition to electric UTVs, embracing the growing movement toward sustainable and efficient transportation options. Importantly, the increased weight limit will also provide greater accessibility for individuals with disabilities, ensuring that more people can safely and comfortably enjoy Maine's outdoor recreation opportunities.

While we understand that the Maine Warden Service may oppose this increase, they do not speak for all landowners. Many of us recognize the significant benefits this bill provides and fully support its passage.

We appreciate the Legislature's commitment to responsible land use policies, and we urge you to support this critical bill. Ensuring that ATV regulations align with evolving technology and user needs will help maintain a balanced approach that benefits landowners, farmers, and outdoor enthusiasts alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We welcome any opportunity to discuss this matter further and provide additional insight based on our experiences as stewards of Maine's landscapes.

Signed:

WADE MCCRUM – MCCRUM FAMILY HOLDINGS

RICKEY BOUCHARD – BOUCHARD FARMS

BRENT GRASS BD GRASS AND SONS

DUANE THERIAULT – THERIAULT FARMS

MARK MADORE – MADORE FARMS

BRENT BUCK – BUCK FARMS

RYAN GUERRETTE – GUERRETTE FARMS