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Testimony of Rep. Bill Bridgeo introducing

LD 1435, An Act to Allow a Municipality or Locally Recognized Lake Association to Post Certain Information on the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Information Kiosks Located at State Boat Launch Facilities

Before the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee

Good afternoon, Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts and distinguished colleagues of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. My name is Bill Bridgeo, and I represent House District 60, which is part of Augusta. I am here today to introduce **LD 1435, An Act to Allow a Municipality or Locally Recognized Lake Association to Post Certain Information on the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Information Kiosks Located at State Boat Launch Facilities.**

LD 1435, if enacted, will provide local recognized lake associations with the opportunity to post, on IF&W kiosks, important information about their mission, ongoing efforts to protect lake water quality, contact information and cautionary information aimed at reducing the risks associated with aquatic invasive species like milfoil.

Typically, IF&W kiosks are fairly large structures and this bill contemplates that only a small section of the display space (perhaps the size of an 8 ½ x 11-inch piece of paper) of that area would be made available to a properly vetted lake association.

I'm not concerned about the potential "slippery slope" concerns the Department may have. I think they can address that with routine rules. The kiosks need not become community bulletin boards.

I am passionate that the primary lake protection entities on our treasured 6,200 lakes and ponds have some access to the most obvious and prominent messaging opportunities to get the word out about their existence and how to help them.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you have for me.