



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Sharon Frost

8 Dane Lane South
Belgrade, ME 04917
Phone: 207-242-6079

Sharon.Frost@legislature.maine.gov

April 24, 2025

Testimony of Rep. Sharon Frost introducing
**LD 1661, An Act to Establish a Comprehensive and Interagency Approach to
Invasive Species Management**
Before the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee

Good afternoon, Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker and fellow colleagues of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. My name is Sharon Frost, and I have the distinct honor of representing House District 58 and the communities of Belgrade, Fayette, Mount Vernon, New Sharon, Rome and Vienna. I am before you today to introduce **LD 1661, An Act to Establish a Comprehensive and Interagency Approach to Invasive Species Management**.

This bill establishes the Maine Invasive Species Advisory Council and the Comprehensive Invasive Species Management Office to evaluate and prioritize invasive species management across all taxa and coordinate interagency collaboration to accomplish invasive species prevention, management, education and outreach.

I introduced this bill at the request of my friend, Gary Fish, who is here today and will speak to the need of this bill.

After hearing from a few stakeholders, I would ask that the committee consider adding to the membership a person representing utility vegetation management and to reduce from two members to one member representing environmental nonprofit organizations or private foundations focused on invasive species issues.

Thank you all for your time and consideration. I would ask that you hold your questions for those who come after me, as they are best prepared to speak to specifics.