

DERECKTOR ROBINHOOD

April 2025

To: The Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

RE: LD 1763 – An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters

My name is Neil Collins. I am the General Manager of Derecktor Maine LLC., also known as Derecktor Robinhood Marine Center, which is a marina and yacht service, building and repair facility in Georgetown on Robinhood Cove.

We own and operate Riggs Cove Rentals at our marina, which is a housefloat rental program that operates in the summer and has for 15 years. We own three housefloats which we rent for short-term holiday stays on moorings in Robinhood Cove. All three floats were granted permits by the Army Corp. of Engineers and are non-powered. The floats have solar panels and batteries for onboard power and zero discharge wastewater systems installed. This rental program is a vital source of income for the boatyard in summer when service work can be slow, and the income generated helps us to keep a full crew working. The rental program itself employs two full time staff in season and generates income for the state through the Maine Lodging Tax and income taxes from the boatyard.

I would like to voice my opposition to LD 1763 as currently written. In banning all nonwater-dependent floating structures in our waters we will be forced to close our rental program, which has operated for many years without issue or complaint. We have a considerable investment in time and money into these housefloats and feel like we are being penalized for the poor behavior of others.

I recognize the complexity of the issue and appreciate the work of the group that wrote the Floating Structure Report as they examined all the ways these NWFS impact the waters of Maine and the Public Trust. I ask that some provision be added to the law to allow for businesses like ours to continue operation while addressing the problems the bill was created to address.

Respectfully,

Neil Collins



General Manager, Derecktor Maine LLC.