Jean Stewart New Sharon

Members of Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry,

Regarding LD 1075, please consider that evidence leads to determination that the bureau of Public Lands(BPL) did not follow the 1993 Constitutional Amendment requiring the legislature to approve any substantial alteration of use of Public Lands. The lease signed in 2014 between Central Maine Power and BPL was prohibited by Title 35-A, section 3132, subsection 13.

LD 1075 along with LD 471, will allow Maine People to benefit from the expected protections of the lands intended for Maine People and for the fauna and flora upon which we rely. The public lands of Johnson Township and West Forks are part of a regional conservation partnership designed to protect native brook trout in the this area and will conserve other essential habitats as well, for us and for future generations.

I ask for your ought to pass vote on LD 1075