Anna Smith Maine Youth Action LD 736 Anna Smith 384 Main Street Saco, Maine 04072 January 14, 2022 LD 736

Maine Youth for Climate Justice

As Mainer's, we pride ourselves in our land and natural resources, but we don't do nearly enough to protect them. Growing up with the realities of climate change has shown me the responsibility we have to care for Maine's habitats. Maine's ecological reserves help conserve biodiversity and fight climate change, but the law creating the ecological reserve system needs to be updated to allow for the creation of more reserves. The threats to our environment has only increased since 2000 when the original law was passed. We now have the chance to enhance the ecological reserve system to further preserve our lands and the species that depend on them. LD 736 would not just protect lands though, it would help keep our environment healthy and absorb carbon pollution so future generations of Mainer's can thrive.

Thank you for your consideration, Anna Smith