

Committee: ENR
Drafter: DCT
File name:
LR (item)#: 0209(02)
New Title?: NO
Add Emergency?: NO
Date: 3/17/21

LD 489
PROPOSED AMENDMENT, SEN. MAXMIN

Amend the bill on page 1, lines 5-14 as follows (deletions and additions shaded):

Section 25. Environmental rights. The people of the State have the right to a clean and healthy environment, including pure water, clean air and healthy ecosystems, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural, recreational, scenic and healthful qualities of the environment. The State may not infringe upon these rights by action or inaction or through the action of others. The State, including each branch, agency and political subdivision, shall serve as trustee of the natural resources of the State, among them its waters, air, flora, fauna, ecosystems and public lands. The State shall conserve, protect and maintain these the State's natural resources, including, but not limited to, its air, water, land and ecosystems for the benefit of all the people, including generations yet to come. The rights stated in this section are inherent, inalienable and indefeasible and are among those rights reserved to all the people and are on par with other protected inalienable rights.

Clean version of above:

Section 25. Environmental rights. The people of the State have the right to a clean and healthy environment and to the preservation of the natural, cultural and healthful qualities of the environment. The State may not infringe upon these rights. The State shall conserve, protect and maintain the State's natural resources, including, but not limited to, its air, water, land and ecosystems for the benefit of all the people, including generations yet to come.

Amend the bill on page 1, lines 21-24 as follows (deletions shaded)

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to grant the people of the State a right to a clean and healthy environment and to the preservation of the natural, cultural, recreational, scenic and healthful qualities of the environment?"

SUMMARY

This amendment makes a number of changes to the amendment to the Constitution of Maine proposed in the resolution, including the removal of reference to the State serving as trustee of the natural resources of the State. It also makes changes to the language of the ballot

question to be submitted to the voters for ratification consistent with the changes made in this amendment to the proposed constitutional amendment.