



# Maine Conservation Voters

*Inform. Vote. Protect.*

## Written Testimony of Maine Conservation Voters

### IN SUPPORT OF LD 489, "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Establish a Right to a Healthy Environment"

March 8, 2021

**Dear Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and distinguished members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,**

I write to express the SUPPORT of Maine Conservation Voters for LD 489, "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Establish a Right to a Healthy Environment," also known as the Pine Tree Amendment.

Our right to breathe clean air and drink clean water should be as fundamental as our right to vote. We support the Pine Tree Amendment because it puts our environmental rights where they should be – in Article 1 of Maine's constitution.

Our state is defined by our extraordinary environment; it is who we are and what we value, as individuals and as a state. Protecting the health of our waters, air, land, and wildlife is essential to our future well-being and prosperity.

In talking about clean water, Senator Ed Muskie said, "High quality water is more than the dream of the conservationists, more than a political slogan; high quality water, in the right quantity at the right place at the right time, is essential to health, recreation, and economic growth."

As we confront environmental challenges from PFAS pollution to climate change, let's make sure Maine is in a position to lead. We encourage you to support the Pine Tree Amendment as a way to guarantee to future generations of Mainers that they will have a clean and safe environment. What a wonderful legacy to leave for our kids.

Thank you for your consideration,

Maureen Drouin  
Executive Director



# Maine Conservation Voters

*Inform. Vote. Protect.*

*Maine Conservation Voters protects Maine's environment and our democracy by making conservation, equity, and voting rights political priorities.*