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When learning about the Pine Tree Amendment, my first reaction was honestly surprise that the basic right to a clean and healthy environment was not already enshrined constitutionally.

Given that the PTA ensures that all legislatures, governors, laws and permits will honor our rights to clean water and a healthful environment, it seems common sense that we approve this motion for all our generations to come.

It is the dream of every American to provide their descendants with, at the very least, the bare necessities of life. It is shameful that we have not already promised the Maine people that much.

Similar legislature in Montana and Pennsylvania have actively checked legislative overreach that would have automatically waived environmental protection standards for fracking and placed their citizens in harms way.

As a proud resident of Maine, I subscribe to the notion that access to a free, pristine and clean nature is a fundamental right as a citizen. I hope you will hear this call to action to ensure the protection of our natural resources for your children and all of our future Mainers to come.