

March 8, 2021

Phoebe MacDonald
32 Rosedale Street
Portland, ME 04103

I'm Phoebe Sage MacDonald, 11 years old, and I attend Ocean Avenue Elementary in Portland, Maine. I've been working for clean oceans and rivers since I was 7 years old. I helped the city of Portland ban plastic straws to keep them out of the ocean, and I was part of The Children's Trust to get Maine to enforce carbon emission standards.

A polluted environment is more dangerous to plants, animals, water, and people than a loaded gun. It seems weird that the Maine constitution guarantees my right to own a gun when I'm an adult, but the constitution does NOT protect the air, water, and land from destruction and pollution. That's crazy!!! And the environment needs protection now more than ever before, because of climate change, and industrial pollution, and all kinds of other big threats.

I'm angry that I'm spending my life fighting for rights that should already be mine, like clean water. I want our beautiful Maine beaches to still exist when I grow up, and at the rate of carbon emissions right now, they will be gone, under water, when I'm the age you are now. Step it up, grown-ups. We need to seriously deal with major problems by getting this amendment passed.

Thank you.

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