

Tessa Shanteler  
Orono

I am in favor of the Pine Tree Amendment for the state of Maine, and its ability to ensure a clean and healthy environment for all Mainers. This form of permanent Constitution will allow for undivided and unwavering support for Maine's environment and will help ensure that no future legislation can take right to our environment away from the people, or threaten our basic right to outdoor spaces.

I am a 3rd year student at the University of Maine in Orono double majoring in Wildlife Ecology and Ecology and Environmental Science with a concentration in Sustainability, Environmental Policy and Natural Resource Management. I personally recreate in the outdoors, by means of hiking, backpacking and camping; and I see a future career for myself working in the outdoors studying wildlife.

I am in support of this amendment and resolution. Its wording stating to do no harm to the environment and to provide decision making guidance for legislators in the state to continue to allow our natural ecosystem to flourish, are two very important aspects of why we need this amendment passed. I would like to ensure that myself and future generations to come have pure water, clean air and a healthy environment, to recreate in and to conserve.