



March 5, 2021

**Testimony in SUPPORT of L.D. 489  
Environment and Natural Resources Committee**

Dear Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Midcoast Conservancy, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of L.D. 489 - a Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Healthy Environment.** Midcoast Conservancy represents more than 1700 members and works to protect vital lands and waters on a scale that matters throughout the Midcoast region.

Maine's economy, environment, and overall quality of life are defined by the abundant natural resources, sacred spaces, and vibrant communities that thrive from sea to summit. Unfortunately, the essence of Maine is increasingly threatened by development pressure, climate change, and exploitation of natural resources. **Existing laws and regulations do not adequately protect our natural resources or way of life in the face of these expanding threats.**

Our 1700 members deserve a right to a healthy environment.

The 13,000 acres of land we have conserved for the public good deserve to be protected.

The Sheepscot River, Medomak River, Megunticook River, Damariscotta Lake, and all the other watersheds in which we work and live deserve to be free flowing, clean, accessible, fishable, swimmable, and drinkable.

**A guaranteed right to a healthy environment will protect our outdoor heritage, safeguard our quality of life, improve our collective wellbeing, and ensure we can meet the environmental challenges of the coming decades.**

For these reasons, we respectfully request the committee **vote in favor of L.D. 489.**

Sincerely,

Tim Trumbauer  
Senior Watershed Manager, on behalf of:  
Midcoast Conservancy

*Clean Water. Thriving Communities. Land for All.*

