



MAINE CAMPGROUND OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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Senator Brenner, Chair
Representative Tucker, Chair
Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

April 5, 2021

RE: Testimony opposing LD 743 An Act To Amend The Laws Governing Invasive Aquatic Species

My name is Kathy Dyer and am the Executive Director for the Maine Campground Owners Association. We represent the private and public campgrounds and RV parks in Maine. The Maine Campground Owners Association is the premier resource for supporting campground owners and promoting camping in Maine. We do this with our Advocacy, Education and Marketing programs, these programs contribute to our member's business success.

This bill effects at least if not more than 16 Public Water Supplies, some of which are campgrounds. This bill as written/amended would take away these folks from having a seat at the table when the DEP wishes to add any type of chemical in their water supply to kill invasive aquatic plants. Having a seat at the table allows these folks to suggest to the DEP to test their water for a period of time to make sure the chemicals they are putting in are not affecting their water supply. By allowing them to have a voice, they would be better able to protect their water supply and keep their customers safe.

Campgrounds that pull from surface water, like ponds or lakes, to provide drinking water to guests are considered "Transient Non-Community Water Systems". The new language found in lines 34 through 36 are being changed to be more specific and exclude "Transient Non-Community Water Systems".

The current law requires notification of all public water systems – which they would be included in. The risk is the DEP uses chemicals to fight invasive plants, doesn't notify "Transient Non-Community Water Systems" and someone ingests water and becomes sick or worse.

Thank you for time and consideration
Kathy Dyer

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