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Maine State Legislature
Senator Brenner
Representative Tucker
Members of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Ref: Opposition to LD1161: An Act Concerning Marina-based Restaurants in the Zone

My name is Peter Whitchurch. My wife and I reside on Long Lake in the town of Bridgton, Maine. We are strongly opposed to LD1161. I know you are cognizant of the pollution issues that attend expanded restaurant growth within the lakeshore zones. Instead, I wish to address the potential public noise nuisance.

Quality of life examples:

During the boating season I often boat past the marina and restaurant on the Chute River in Naples. In the evening it is loud and obnoxious. And in the north portion of Long Lake in Harrison, you can clearly hear; "number 12 your order is ready" from the loud speaker of a lake-side convenience store with outdoor seating all day long. These incidences are clearly disruptive to nearby residences and across water, to residences that are not so nearby. Multiply this by five or six additional marinas around Long Lake and Brandy Pond and the potential is dismaying.

Property value example:

My family has a cottage on Lake Ontario in New York State. Fifty years ago the Wilson Boat House was a small quiet restaurant. Now it is a loud indoor and outdoor venue with a live band on weekends. Our cottage is 1/3 mile away from the restaurant and we have to keep our windows shut until the din dies down after midnight. Residential home values in the area are now problematic.

Please defeat this bill and protect our lakes.

Sincerely,

Peter G. Whitchurch