

John Minagawa  
South Portland  
LD 1979

To: Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

From: John Minagawa

Date: February 28th, 2022

Re: Testimony in Opposition to LD 1979 An Act To Sustain Good-paying Jobs in the Forest Products Industry by Ensuring Consistency between Comprehensive River Resource Management Plans and State Water Quality Standards

Senator Stacy Brenner, Representative Ralph Tucker and honorable members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. My name is John Minagawa, I am a resident of South Portland, Maine and I, like most of Maine, greatly appreciate the unique natural setting we have throughout the state.

I am writing in opposition to LD 1979 An Act To Sustain Good-paying Jobs in the Forest Products Industry by Ensuring Consistency between Comprehensive River Resource Management Plans and State Water Quality Standards.

My favorite part about living in Maine is the ease of access we have to natural settings. Whether it's looking out the window driving up 295 and seeing a raptor and trying to figure out which species it was or going to a nearby stream in Alewives season, we are lucky to be able to have such well protected access to our ecosystem.

Amidst the current mass extinction event and record setting amounts of biodiversity loss announced seemingly year after year, continuing to enact unnecessary harm on the endangered Atlantic Salmon population by maintaining the obsolete dams owned by Brookfield on the Kennebec River seems neglectful at best and malicious at worst. They produce a negligible amount of energy that, in causing irreparable harm to our ecosystem, is in no way green or sustainable. In impeding a potential windfall of recreational and economic activity, they are causing more financial and social harm than good. They are harming the environment that I, and so many other Mainers, live in and enjoy everyday.

For all the above reasons, I urge you to vote ought not to pass on LD 1979.

Sincerely,  
John Minagawa