

2022

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GrowSmart Maine in support of LD 1616 “An Act To Enhance the Ability of Municipalities to Address Climate Change Impacts by Protecting and Restoring Threatened Natural Resources”

February 28, 2022

Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Nancy Smith and I am the Executive Director of GrowSmart Maine.

We are a statewide non-partisan organization that supports communities as they navigate change in alignment with smart growth. We support policies, programs and projects that define and protect the value of our unique built and natural places while supporting long term economic opportunity. It is from this perspective that we lend our support to LD 1616.

As amended, this bill broadens existing municipal authority to address environmental risks caused by privately owned roads, ways, and bridges. We believe this is appropriate, in recognizing that Great Ponds, currently addressed in this way, are one of the many natural assets that can be put at risk by storm water runoff pollution. LD 1616 proposes a sensible extension of municipal authority, and we encourage the committee to support this bill.



Executive Director