

January 29, 2023

Dear members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Anne Reid and I spend the summer on Lake Wesserunsett in Madison Maine. I am asking for your support today for LD 164: An Act to Fund the Lake Restoration and Protection Fund.

I volunteer for the Lake Wesserunsett Association and have spent almost every summer of my life on the lake, as my mother and grandfather did before me. I hope my daughter will do the same, but we need help keeping our lake waters healthy. The effects of warming waters, longer growing seasons, larger rain events, and increased development pressure are putting our lakes at greater risk with every passing day. Funding for lake protection projects, including implementation of Best Management Practices, replacement of failing septic systems, stronger invasive species management programs, and treatment of lakes with chronic algae blooms are desperately needed to safeguard lake health in the coming decades.

Please invest in the healthy future of Maine's lakes today to protect local economies, outdoor tourism, sporting and recreation businesses, drinking water supplies, wildlife habitat and so much more for all who use lakes in the future.

Signed,

Anne Reid