



January 24, 2023

Dear Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Richard Tucci. For the past 68 years I have had the privilege to spend days of my summers on the pristine shores of Lake Androscoggin in Wayne, where I plan to retire. I am asking for your support today for **LD 164: An Act to Fund the Lake Restoration and Protection Fund**.

In just the last five years we've witnessed a tremendous and alarming change in conditions impacting the quality of the water in our beloved lake. Monsoon rains have poured more nutrients into the lake encouraging abnormal algae growth. Heat waves have led to algae blooms closing parts of the lake to swimming and no doubt endangering wildlife including our beloved loons and eagles that make their homes on and around the lake.

ALIC (Androscoggin Lake Improvement Corporation) is our non-profit advocate for saving the lake. They have done a remarkable job on a shoe-string budget. They need your help and need it now to take steps that will preserve the lake and continue its legacy as a prime example of the beauty of Maine lakes.

Maine is a true vacationland, and its livelihood and future prosperity will be in jeopardy without more funding to support lake restoration and preservation.

I implore you to use your power to give groups like ALIC the boost needed to continue their critical role and projects that will safeguard Maine lakes for many more generations.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Tucci .



24 Nicholson Drive, Wayne, Maine 04284

Rtucci@leapacademy.net

312.296.5542