

Stephanie KelleyRomano  
Auburn  
LD 1473

To: Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich, and Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee

RE: Testimony in support of LD1473: An act to Protect Certain Unfiltered Drinking Water Sources

My name is Stephanie Kelley-Romano and I live in Auburn Maine, and work at Bates College, in Lewiston Maine.

I am writing as an engaged and intelligent citizen urging you to vote "ought to pass" on LD1473.

I have been working with the "We Protect Lake Auburn" community group for the past year, and frankly have been shocked at the amount of politicking going on around this issue. Everyone has a right to clean, affordable water. Just because climate change "may someday" require us to build a filtration system is no reason to simply give up on protecting and serving this earth.

Maine is a unique and beautiful state -- it is important we keep clean drinking water affordable for our residents. I've seen that if we lose our waiver, our rates will likely more than double. As a single mom, and homeowner this would be a legit issue for me -- and I am not even close to the most vulnerable of our citizens!!

Please support this -- we need protection for the lake so that everyone can have clean water. The watersheds need to be protected until we can discern the best course forward for our residents. I know at least at Lake Auburn the science backs conservation rather than development. So please vote "ought to pass."