

Mitchell Baum
Brooklin, Maine
LD 1845

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for your work. My name is Mitchell Baum. I live year round in Brooklin, Maine. I am strongly for this legislation for many reasons. For the sake of brevity, and to hopefully not repeat what others will say, here are two relevant memories:

As a child, I saw Luna Moths 3 or 4 times. Each was an occasion of wonder and awe. Luna Moths are big, 4 inches across, with swallow tails, and pale green. Each time was a trill that something this beautiful and improbable existed. As an adult, sadly the only Luna Moths I've seen have been dead at night on the pavement at closed gas stations, attracted by the all night lights.

Some years back I had dinner with friends who had rented a house at the Look Out in Brooklin. When it was time for me to leave, the couple and their two children walked me to my car. There was no moon. The clear sky was ablaze with stars. We were all deeply affected. The youngest, barely awake in his fathers arms, became fully attentive and excited. He traced his finger across the sky. He'd never seen anything like it. Years later, we still talked about that night. Without the proposed legislation, I fear such experiences, and the knowledge that Luna Moths, skies ablaze with stars exist, will be forgotten.