

Senator Brenner
Representative Gramlich
Members of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee

LD 1845, An Act to Regulate Outdoor Lighting

My name is Debra Hart. I am a resident of Manchester, Maine and am providing these comments on behalf of the Maine Campground Owners Association in opposition to LD 1845.

Campgrounds is a type of lodging that is utilized both by campers who come for a night, a week, or a month, along with permanent campers who spend an entire season at a campground. It is part of an outdoor experience where guests expect an experience of being outdoors and where they may enjoy nature and all that Maine has to offer. Being an outdoor experience also means there needs to be attention paid to the safety of guests. There are animals that are out at night and paths that need to be illuminated to avoid any number of instances where a guest can trip or fall causing an injury. No campground wants to be illuminated to the point where guests cannot enjoy themselves, but safety is also an important concern.

Specifically spotlights or a security light would not be shielded and permanent campers may have a lighting fixtures that are not necessarily shielded. Trying to police what campers do in a specific area would be burdensome and likely impossible to enforce.

As campground owners our prime concern is the safety of our guests dealing with a changing landscape that can be different on a daily basis. We respectfully ask that you vote this bill ought not to pass.