Anne Rankin Brunswick LD 1845

There are so many reasons I'd like to defend the dark skies in Maine. For one, I appreciate the beauty of the stars and very much wish to keep this as part of my experience being a resident here. I moved to Maine in 2019 in part due to having access to the beauty, quiet, and splendor of a multitude of stars at night. More importantly, though, I see night sky pollution as a health issue. Too much light, or the wrong kinds of light, has a negative effect on birds, bats, and insects, in addition to other creatures. We are losing so many species of birds each year due to the disruptive nature of light pollution, and we have already plagued insects with many other challenges (such as environmental toxins). This affects humans in terms of food supply due to the struggles of pollinators to do their work. There are other impacts on humans related to hormonal cancers now linked to sleep issues. We must get ahead of this issue. It's a problem we can solve easily--and one that will save money and save our lives. Why would we ever choose to do otherwise?