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***Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources***

***RE: LD 2261 "An Act Designating New Motor Vehicle Emissions Rules as Major Substantive Rules"***

Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Karen Blakelock and I am the Climate and Energy Policy Advisor for The Nature Conservancy in Maine. **I appreciate this opportunity to submit comments Neither For Nor Against LD 2261 - An Act Designating New Motor Vehicle Emissions Rules as Major Substantive Rules.**

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. Guided by science, we create innovative, on-the-ground solutions to our world's toughest challenges so that nature and people can thrive together. TNC has been leading conservation in Maine for more than 60 years and is the 12th largest landowner in the state, owning and managing roughly 300,000 acres.

As an organization committed to creating a future of healthy lands, waters, and communities, we know that taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors is essential. For this reason, I ask that this committee reconsider Section 3, Retroactivity, as it sets an unusual precedent in which stakeholders can't trust the regulatory process, despite it being followed correctly. It would be unfortunate if the Legislature passed a bill that cast doubt on the regulatory process of another branch of government after the fact. Such an occurrence is harmful to all stakeholders and erodes trust with the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment Neither For Nor Against LD 2261, and for reconsidering Section 3 of the bill.