

Kelsey Fenwick
Port Clyde

To the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee,

My name is Kelsey Fenwick, I am born and raised in Maine, and care strongly about our state and it's future. I am writing in support of L D. 101: An Act to Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development sponsored by Representative Billy Bob Faulkingham. The Gulf of Maine is a valuable resource and this bill will help protect it for future generations.

I support this bill because I am concerned about the adverse impacts of offshore wind on the Gulf of Maine, it's fisheries, and all marine species. There is little research on the long term impacts of multiple offshore wind turbines on marine habitats. Currently the Gulf of Maine houses one of the healthiest, most sustainable fisheries in the world. The lobster industry is tried and true, generating a large portion of the State's revenue. The risk is too great, the Gulf of Maine, it's fisheries, and the families it feeds are too valuable. There are too many negative consequences of offshore wind to experiment in the Gulf of Maine.

Why offshore wind farms are detrimental to the Gulf of Maine:

- Vibrations and noise from turbine construction and operation are detrimental to marine animals
- Rotating turbine blades and their bases in the water disrupt the natural cycling of water temperature that fish and shellfish depend on to migrate, breed and flourish, thus driving fish out of vast areas
- EMFs (Electro-Magnetic Fields) disturb fish migration patterns
- Loss of commercial and recreational fishing grounds
- Radar & Navigational Hazards
- Leakage of hazardous materials (oil leakage from turbines is not uncommon)
- Disposal of turbine blades (only a 15-25 year lifespan) then each massive non-recyclable blade gets buried in the ground
- Harm or death to birds (estimated up to 500k/year in the USA), fish, whales, etc.

I am all for green energy and protecting Maine's valuable resources, which is why I urge you to vote in favor of LD 101. Offshore wind is not good for the environment, or Maine.

Kelsey Fenwick
Port Clyde, ME