



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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March 3, 2021
Rep. Sherman Hutchins
In Support of

LD 101 “An Act to Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development”

Dear Senator Lawrence, Rep. Berry and Members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee:

I am writing in support of **LD 101 “An Act to Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development”**, as representative of District 131, and as a member of the Zone C Lobster Council. I have included a letter from the Zone C Committee members in support of LD 101.

The Zone C Committee strongly believes that any offshore wind infrastructure in the waters off the coast of Maine would be detrimental to our way of life. The Maine lobster industry is already under severe pressure on multiple fronts; pending whale regulations that are calling for a 98% reduction in our current business model by 2030, this and an uncertain economy looming as we claw our way out from the pandemic, and now offshore wind.

The proposed wind developments would eliminate thousands of acres of productive fishing bottom for the Maine Lobster fishing fleet, resulting in indirect economic consequences to an industry that is already under severe threat. The wind turbines will also be a serious hazard to navigation for fishermen and pleasure boats alike.

We strongly believe that any offshore wind development on the coast of Maine could be a death blow to our industry and way of life.

I am respectfully,

Sherman Hutchins
State Representative