

Dear Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology,

My name is Anne McIntire and I am writing to you today to plead for your support on LD 101. I am the granddaughter (on both sides), daughter, niece (twice over), and sister of lobstermen and I speak to you because I love and support them.

The concerns surrounding the implementation of Offshore Wind Farms in the Gulf of Maine by lobstermen, fishermen, and other Maine residents deserve to be heard.

The fact that these Offshore Wind Farms are even an option when the risks far outway the reward is completely absurd to me.

This proposal will put every Maine lobsterman and fisherman at risk. People's livelihoods and subsequently their way of life, depend on the Gulf of Maine. The myth that introducing industrialized mechanisms into the Gulf of Maine will not disrupt valuable ecosystems is ludicrous. **No one** knows what would happen to the fishing and lobster industry if the industrialization of the Gulf were to occur. What kind of state government is willing to risk so many thousands of people's way of life? This idea is not worth the risk. Rather than the obsession with being the state with an Offshore Wind farm, why are our state policy makers not more concerned with supporting their constituents?

Fishing families are a core part of the great state of Maine and they will become extinct should these wind farms be created.

I implore you to and others who have the power, to listen to the lobstermen and fishermen and take pause rather than continuing down a path that will eviscerate these industries in a way that can never be taken back. Choose to show the hardworking men and women in our fishing industries that their voices matter and they will be listened to when speaking up.

Again, I implore you to do what is right, what is best for the state of Maine, and support LD 101.

Thank you for listening,
Anne McIntire