



## Testimony in SUPPORT of LD 101

TO: Senator Lawrence  
Representative Berry  
Members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

FROM: Donald Wotton  
redlady@tidewater.net

DATE: May 3, 2021

RE: An Act to Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development

My name is Donald Wotton. I am a fisherman from New Harbor, and I am writing on behalf of my family and our business, Wotton's Lobster Wharf LLC. I am writing in SUPPORT of LD 101.

My family and I are dependent on the waters of Maine for our livelihood. I have spent nearly every day of my 55 years on the ocean. My three sons and I have been lobstering and tuna fishing since we were able to walk. I am deeply concerned that experimenting with the Gulf of Maine is taking a risk on my livelihood.

Some of my biggest concerns are:

- The windmill site will take away valuable fishing ground
- It will be nearly impossible to maintain
- The cable will disturb the ocean floor and disrupt the food chain
- A navigational hazard will be created, as the site is in a designated shipping lane
- Lobsters' migration patterns will be affected

After working with the Maine Department of Marine Resources and the Land for Maine's Future Board we recently designated our property as Working Waterfront. An overwhelming number of non-fishermen are seeking and purchasing waterfront property in our town. While our hope is that this designation allows our family and future generations of fishermen to have access to the waterfront of New Harbor, we now have regrets and fear that our way of life is being threatened.

Thank you for your time and I hope you will SUPPORT LD 101