

Jordan Kramer
Winnegance Oyster Farm
LD 1286

I am writing to support changes in LD 1286 to support the flourishing community of innovative, small-scale sea farms that make up a large part of the state's aquaculture industry.

To do this, I propose that one of the two task force chairs in the aquaculture category should explicitly represent the small-scale, independent sea farms whose interests have largely been either ignored or actively opposed by industry lobbying over the last decade.

Doing this would acknowledge that innovation can come from Maine's small-scale family farms, and not just the multinational operations pouring lobbying money into the state. Representation in blue economy planning will insure that there is a future here for businesses of all sizes and help will help protect one the few bright spots for small farms in the agriculture system as a whole.