Karen Herold Cumberland

Respected committee members -- I urge you to support LD 394. Wildlife is central to Maine's identity and brand. As a Maine Master Naturalist, I am acutely aware of the health of and threats to wildlife. My family shares a summer house on Woodbury Pond in Litchfield, a pond favored with nesting loons, ospreys, and eagles. Every year we marvel at how the birds put up with all the motorboat traffic. Occasionally a jet boat explodes down the lake at enormous speed and loud volume, and we despair how any creature could evade the boat's swift approach. Clearly the boat driver is going too fast to notice birds. A race or regatta would multiply the danger. It's hard to fathom that IFW does not now have the authority to decline permission based on a proposed event's clear threat to wildlife. LD 394 is a necessary fix. Thank you.