

Dear Members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee,

I am writing to ask you to support LD 394, "An Act to Project Maine's Loons and Other Wildlife in the Issuance of a Permit to Hold a Regatta, Race, or Boat or Water Ski Exhibition."

Almost every weekend between May and September, I drive 250 miles to the beautiful State of Maine to enjoy the natural resources of Maine's wildlife. We own a lake front camp in Standish that we purchased several years ago. My goal is to become a full time Maine resident within the next 5 years. It is important to me and my family that we protect the wildlife of Maine, including but not limited to loons.

Supporting LD394 will further enhance the protection of wildlife in our lakes and rivers. Current Maine statutes leave loons and other wildlife unprotected in the face of risks associated with state sanctioned Regattas, Boat Races and Water Ski Exhibitions. Under the current permitting statute Maine's IF&W has no authority to consider wildlife impacts and the issuances of such permits and no authority to attach wildlife protection conditions to such permits and no authority to deny any such permit application on the basis to dangers to resident wildlife.

LD394 will allow IF&W to further protect Maine's precious wildlife resources. I ask that you support this important legislation to protect Maine's loons and other wildlife during state sanctions regattas, boat races and water ski exhibitions.

Respectfully,

David Maus

David Maus – Standish, ME