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Testimony in Opposition

LD 1012, An Act to Fund Wildlife Rehabilitators

Presented by David Trahan, Executive Director of SAM-ILA

April 7, 2021

The honorable Senator Dill, Representative Landry, members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee, my name is David Trahan, I am the Executive Director of the SAM Institute for Legislative Action and I am testifying in opposition to LD 1012, An Act to Fund Wildlife Rehabilitators.

Our organization supports animal rehab organizations and the important work that they do. Our concern is not with giving grants to these organizations, but with the growing amount of Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund money going to state agencies. We believe a better source of revenue for state agencies is through the state budget process. Currently, non-profit animal rehab organizations apply for and receive Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund grants, we continue to support their efforts. We are not sure why this bill was introduced but if we learn more information, we may reconsider our position.