

James Melloh  
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Senators Dill, Senator Miramant, Representative Landry, Representative McCreight and members of the Joint Standing Committees on Inland Fisheries & Wildlife & Marine Resources:

My name is James Melloh. I live in South Portland and am writing in support of LD 883 as amended by Senator Miramant.

In 1996 with LD 164, Maine took responsibility for listing endangered species away from the state and federal scientists and gave it to the legislature. Twenty-five years later it's time we gave it back. It is not a political matter.

The purpose of the federal ESA is to protect and recover imperiled native species and the ecosystems they depend to prevent them from going extinct. If a species is endangered on a national level, its survival is endangered here. The following federally listed endangered species are not listed presently at our state level the: the red knot, Canada lynx, blue whale, green turtle, Atlantic salmon, Atlantic sturgeon. Federal listing alone does not ensure the needed management and protections they would receive under Marine ESA or MESA .

Please vote ought to pass on LD 883 as amended.

Sincerely,  
James Melloh MD MS