

barbara skapa
mt vernon

Mainers Guarding Right Whales Inc., a non profit whose purpose is to save the North Atlantic Right Whale from imminent extinction with 360 left, endorses this bill 100% and seeks to have this whale legislated as the State of Maine Marine mascot. Unlike the states of Georgia, Rhode Island and Massachusetts which have NARW mascots and license plates, Mainers deny the existence of this species in Maine waters out of ignorance or fear or both.

Georgia, on the contrary, with only 100 miles of coastline where NARWs birth calves, holds an annual NARW festival, promotes them heavily for tourism, and seeks protections from entanglements and ship strikes of whales and sea turtles. A Georgian conservation organization recently launched a lobster/crab boycott to protest lack of progress of protections for this species by NOAA.

A critical first step is of course formal recognition by a state of ESA status.

We congratulate sponsors of LD833 for taking this step to join up with 34 others states in our country.

MAINERS GUARDING RIGHT WHALES.ORG