

March 21, 2023

Re: Support for LD 693: "An Act to Protect Inland Water Quality, Shorelines, Wildlife and Public Safety by Prohibiting Operation of a Wake Boat to Create an Enhanced Wake Close to Shore or in Shallow Water "

Dear Senator LaFountain, Representative Landry, and distinguished members of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife,

My wife and I own a camp on Moose Pond in Bridgton for over 25 years. Our names are James Gilchrist and Maria DelBeccaro. We can be reached thru my email at [jamesgilchrist07@gmail.com](mailto:jamesgilchrist07@gmail.com). Preserving the beauty, clear water and native flora and fauna of Moose Pond, and all Maine lakes, is very important to us. We have had first hand experience of how large wakes from boats too close to shore can affect shoreline, loons, ducks and those of us who also enjoy non-powered lake activities such as swimming, canoeing and kayaking. The noise of crashing waves as they smash into the shore is all too familiar, from boats way to close to shore. We fully support your bill to mitigate this problem to whatever extent it can by keeping wake boats farther from shore. We and our neighbors also worry about invasive plants such as milfoil, and the adverse effect of large wakes on keeping any infestation under even partial control. The lakes of Maine are one of its many treasures, and they need more protection.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I encourage you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 693.

Jim Gilchrist  
Maria DelBeccaro