

March 20, 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 name is Gregory Moser and my wife and I live in Portland, with a part-time cabin in Washington County. My email address is [vtsec11@hotmail.com](mailto:vtsec11@hotmail.com).

I am a retired fish and wildlife biologist and fisherman. My family and I enjoy the use of lakes, ponds and streams throughout Maine, to relax in the water and commune with the natural world, while enjoying our friends and sharing the lake/pond with others.

I heard about LD 693 the other day from a friend, and I was very concerned to learn of the explosion of wake boats in lakes and waters of Maine and that there are no rules to specifically regulate this new, and more impactful, form of watersport. We need to regulate this growing sport now, to mitigate most negative impacts, rather than too late.

I am very concerned for the social, physical, and associated biological impacts that wake boats will cause, especially in shallower waters. Specifically, I am concerned that the design of these boats will significantly impact water bottoms and shores causing erosion and sedimentation, with associated large impacts to fish and wildlife habitats. It will also be a hazard to people and their dwellings and infrastructure.

After reading a summary of LD 693, I am convinced that this thoughtful bill will offset impacts to shallow and near shore waters and allow enjoyment and safety for people, their dwellings, and environs. Based on my experience and expertise, 500 feet from shore and minimum 20 feet water depth, are good minimum requirements for this bill.

I urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 693.

Gregory Moser  
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Portland, Maine