To: Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 132nd Maine State Legislature

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RE: Testimony in support of LD 1763: "An act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters"

Date: 26 April 2025

Senator Baldacci, Representative Roberts, and distinguished members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of LD 1763. Maine's lakes and great ponds are among the greatest treasures in our State. They face innumerable challenges to the quality of the water, including storm runoff, climate change with warming, and algal blooms. We have the opportunity here to regulate these non-navigation structures that risk polluting our lakes and decreasing their value to our economy and to the enjoyment of the majority of people in the State.

This Legislation stems from a detailed study on this topic coordinated by the many state agencies with expertise in this area. It reflects a carefully reviewed process considering many facets on a complex topic. It is not a 'one-off' proposal written haphazardly for a particular concern. It represents the best that Maine can do through regulation to preserve the beauty and health of our great ponds and lakes from this threat to them.

Thank you for considering this Act and for supporting its passage as written.