

G Matthew Chappell  
Gather Restaurant/Yarmouth

Much of the food industry in Maine is built around small farmers, makers and those that choose to make a living by producing/growing their own goods. My parents did it back in 1968 when they started Tom's of Maine, and I'm lucky enough, as a restaurant owner, to work with dozens of producers across the state -including oyster farmers. They, along with so many, are the lifeblood of our tourism economy.

Instead of making it more difficult to operate, I urge you to lessen the barriers and work with them to grow long-term, sustainable fisheries.

I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE LD1146

Respectfully,  
-Matt Chappell