

Samuel Dorval  
BRUNSWICK

My name is Samuel Dorval, co-owner owner of Ferda Farms LLC, an oyster, and clam farm in Brunswick, Maine. I oppose LD 1146 because the changes in the legislature it recommends will create a huge setback on the hard work I have put into building this business. What I have noticed by working on the water is that the aquaculture industry has a variety of companies of all shapes and sizes. These varying sizes of companies are healthy and promote competition in a sustainable industry. By limiting size and expansion in aquaculture businesses, these recommendations will not protect Maine's oceans but do just the opposite. Limiting the expansion of farms will deter investment and innovation on the working waterfront and keep companies from growing. Furthermore, I oppose this legislation because I believe that Maine's lease and management system for aquaculture has been carefully implemented and already critiqued greatly. It is a working system, not a broken one.