

Adam Ulrickson
Freeport

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Lobsterman Freeport

Senator Miramant, Representative McCreight, and members of the Marine Resources Committee. I am testifying today in support of LD 1146. I hope you are hearing this from me but you may be hearing it from my wife as I am trying to fix the boats that need to get back in the water to support Maine's most economically significant wild fishery.

My entire family is lobstermen and we are deeply concerned about industrialized aquaculture. I have attended enough hearings to know that leases are granted a majority of the time. These smaller leases become bigger leases and attractive to large out-of-state companies.

LD 1146 is a great beginning.

We are asking that this committee vote in support of reducing the acreage from 1,000 acres that can be held by aquaculturists.

WE are asking that you look again at how long these leases can be held.

We are asking you to support a statewide conversation.

As the former director of the aquaculture program at DMR has said – “there is no plan for aquaculture” – I would like to add or for the future of the Maine Coast.

Again, I urge you to pass LD 1146.

Thank you.

Adam Ulrickson