

Ann Hoffner
Sorrento

Senator Miramant, Representative McCreight, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources; Thank you for providing me the opportunity to speak with you this morning.

My name is Ann Hoffner. I live in Sorrento, where I recently moved permanently after visiting during the summer since I was nine years old.

I am here to ask you to vote yes to pass on LD1211

Frenchman Bay is an amazingly varied place with many different aspects affecting the surrounding communities, and so many people and groups and businesses competing for use of it. LD1211's intention to create a legislative study group to look at relevant existing laws and practices in a systematic way was first recommended in 2007 and since then, the need has only grown stronger to create a regional forum and process to help guide where the bay's future lies, with input from all the many stakeholders.

In recent years the bay has been facing the escalation of a number of demands, some new, some old and some, like aquaculture, changing, specifically with the addition of the push to farm salmon.

Besides being a resident of a small town on the bay which takes much of its livelihood from fishing and summer residents and recreation, I am both a sailor and a marine journalist. The bay's beauty for me is a combination of its unparalleled beauty and its workaday character. To lose either to poor management or no management would be a tragedy. Proper planning for Frenchman Bay should be done in the context of both the larger coast and its own unique characteristics, and not be left to the mercy of one or two powerful local interests.

Thank you.