

John Boit
Penobscot
LD 2065

Dear Committee Members,

I am strongly opposed to LD 2065, which would change the number of citizens required to request a public hearing on aquaculture licensing from 5 people to 25. This seems designed to avoid as much public input as possible, which is undemocratic.

This bill also stipulates that notice of any hearings be published only once in a newspaper in the area of the state effected, or any other method considered appropriate by DMR. This is extremely vague, and again seems deliberately designed to ensure minimal knowledge of government proceedings among citizens.

I truly wish lawmakers would focus on common sense laws that protect and enhance nature in our state, rather than trying to undermine citizens' rights. The committee is under heavy scrutiny, and rightfully so, for pushing ill-conceived bills such as these.