

Rebecca Schaffner  
Edgecomb  
LD 1687

Senator Nangle, Representative Stover, and members of the Committee: I am Becky Schaffner, from Edgecomb, and I am writing to support LD1687 for several reasons. I am a GIS Coordinator in the Water Bureau of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and in this position I assist multiple water monitoring, research, and protection programs. For each one of them, I need the best available and most current data and imagery available to create the maps and data analysis used by DEP staff. It is critical for my work, but more importantly, to almost every state agency and municipality, to establish stable, permanent funding for imagery acquisition and processing.

I also frequently require technical assistance from, and use data layers created by the hardworking and busy staff of the Maine Office of Geographic Information Systems. They face the same staffing challenges as most of the rest of the state, and are greatly in need of the additional support and expertise that would come from funding the two additional positions in MEGIS.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Respectfully,  
Becky Schaffner