

Testimony in **SUPPORT** of
LD 1934
An Act to Promote Responsible Outdoor Lighting
May 12, 2025

Dear Maine State and Local Government Committee members,

It is rare to have legislation in front of you that is a win-win – and today that is LD 1934. This bill benefits and protects Maine tourism which is a cornerstone of the Maine economy – AND it benefits wildlife which is also beneficial to tourism.

In Maine we are fortunate to experience dark skies. Where I live in Belgrade, we can sit on the deck and see the Milky Way. But as development expands, so does outdoor lighting. Malls, parking lots, banks, grocery stores all need lighting. The good news is businesses can install lighting that shines downward to provide safety while not shining upward into the night sky. There are many lighting options that offer this solution – it is not a burden.

Tourists come to Maine for the unspoiled nature of our beautiful state. They come here to escape the bright lights. Our dark sky represents wildness and it is a huge draw for those seeking a vacation away from the crowds. LD 1934 ensures that in the long term Maine remains a place of wildness and dark skies.

I urge you to pass LD 1934 and create a legacy for protecting our natural beauty and ensuring tourism continues – and yes, benefiting our wildlife.

LD 1934 offers you an opportunity to support a win-win. I urge you to vote yes.

Sincerely,
Leann Diehl
Belgrade