



Testimony in support of LD115, An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts April 4, 2025

Dear Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, my name is JoAnn Locktov. I'm a co-founder of Portland Cruise Control, a community advocacy group, working to achieve transparency and propose solutions to mitigate the environmental impacts of cruise ships and educate our community to better understand the consequences of cruise tourism. I'm writing in support of LD115, An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts.

Maine Won't Wait is Maine's four-year climate plan with the goal to protect our natural resources, communities and people from the effects of climate change. LD 115 is an actionable plan to address these concerns with specific financial support in direct relationship to the entities responsible for the environmental damage. The NYT reported that a "200-foot vessel burns 132 gallons of diesel fuel an hour standing still and can guzzle 2,200 gallons just to travel 100 nautical miles." A megayacht can emit 7,020 tonnes of CO2 annually, which is over 1,500 times higher than a typical family car. They are literally the worst asset for an individual to own from an environmental perspective.

We cannot allow the megayacht vessels to pollute with impunity. Their size and carbon footprint create a burden on our air and marine environment, and so it is incumbent upon us to require an Impact Fee to defray the

damage of their excessive pollution. Considered *environmentally indefensible** pollution pricing on megayachts already exists in Europe using two pricing regulations on their carbon emissions. LD115 is testament to Maine's commitment to recognize climate injustice and address disproportionate individual climate emissions. We are all being asked to contribute to a healthier state by our lifestyle choices: recycling, composting, installing heat pumps, eating less meat, driving electric vehicles, walking, cycling, and taking public transportation. Shouldn't visitors who come to Maine and produce carbon inequality with their megayachts also be asked to contribute?

I trust that you will agree that LD115 is a fair and proactive step to hold megayacht owners accountable for the pollution they cause. LD115 does not exist in isolation, it aligns with our climate efforts throughout the state and will support our port communities, harbors, and public transportation.

Please vote "Ought to Pass" on LD115. Thank you very much.

[*https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/dec/11/megayachts-environment-carbon-emissions-ban](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/dec/11/megayachts-environment-carbon-emissions-ban)