



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 11, 2013

To: Senator Dutremble Chair
Representative Shaw Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

From: Chandler Woodcock, Commissioner

Subject: Opposition Letter regarding L.D. 1174 in lieu of testimony.

Dear Committee Members,

LD 1174 resolves to establish a commission to study the creation of a state and federal fish and wildlife museum at the Massabesic Experimental Forest in Alfred and Lyman.

While the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife appreciates this noble and positive idea we feel that we are not the best suited entity to be involved in this resolve. The State Museum in Augusta, the Wildlife Park in Gray and the Rangeley and Oquossoc Outdoor Heritage Museum are all wonderful examples of Wildlife Museums in Maine. They offer a great experience related to Maine's rich fish, wildlife and natural resources.

The Department feels that it's involvement may be an excessive use of the public's resources and we do not feel it is necessary. It is for that reason that the Department is opposed to LD 1174.

If you have any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact Christl Theriault, Assistant to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at 287-1197.