

Summary of 2011 EPC Defensive Priorities

Moving Maine forward on the trail to prosperity

Lawmakers introduced more than 50 rollback bills this session that would have weakened Maine’s environmental laws, increased air and water pollution, and jeopardized public health. The EPC and its allies worked with the Legislature to defeat many of the most egregious of these measures, which would have undermined the good health, good jobs and quality of life that Maine’s environment provides to all of us.



Strengthened Maine’s Kid-Safe Products Act while creating greater clarity and predictability for businesses.



Defeated effort to have Maine withdraw from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a Northeast States plan to reduce carbon pollution and increase clean energy.



Defeated several bills to weaken water quality, vernal pools, and significant wildlife habitat.



Defeated several attempts to weaken Maine’s successful bottle recycling and redemption law.



Defeated attempts to repeal the ban on billboard advertising on Maine’s public ways.



Removed dozens of rollback provisions in LD 1 that would have undermined many of Maine’s landmark environmental, health and safety protection laws.



Taking Maine in the wrong direction

These laws shortcut Maine people and take Maine in the wrong direction.



Repealed the public’s pesticide spraying notification registry, affecting more than 1,800 people who signed up to receive important health notifications when these dangerous chemicals are being sprayed near their homes.



Increased potential exposure to mercury in the workplace by authorizing the use of devices for the on-site crushing of mercury-containing light bulbs.



Weakened significantly Maine’s Uniform Building and Energy Code by exempting over 400 Maine towns where 40% of the state’s population lives.



Set up a biased study to consider eliminating the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC), the state agency charged with protecting Maine’s North Woods.



Weakened protection of aquatic life in rivers and streams by expanding the exemption for getting a permit for replacing culverts at road crossings.



Required a study of the impacts of “Takings” legislation, which would force Maine local and state governments to use taxpayer dollars to pay private landowners for following existing and future environmental, health and safety laws.



Maine Environmental Priorities Coalition

Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition is a partnership of 26 environmental, conservation, and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs and quality of life that our environment provides for all of us.

American Lung Association of Maine
Appalachian Mountain Club
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Bicycle Coalition of Maine
Conservation Law Foundation
Environmental Health Strategy Center
Environment Maine
Environment Northeast
Friends of Casco Bay
Maine Audubon
Maine Center for Economic Policy
Maine Congress of Lake Associations
Maine Council of Churches
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited
Maine Interfaith Power and Light
Maine Conservation Voters Education Fund
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Maine People's Alliance
Maine Rivers
Natural Resources Council of Maine
Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
RESTORE: The North Woods
Sierra Club Maine
The Ocean Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
Toxics Action Center

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