



Reduce Carbon Pollution and Strengthen Maine's Economy

Enact LD 797 for a comprehensive strategy to tackle climate change.

A clear roadmap for curbing harmful carbon pollution will create jobs and protect the health of Maine's people and environment for future generations.

Mainers know we need to tackle climate change *now* to protect our health and way of life.

Climate change is already impacting Maine:

- The Gulf of Maine is warming faster than 99 percent of the world's oceans and becoming inhospitable to species that we have long relied upon, like lobster and Atlantic cod. This warming threatens Maine's commercial fishermen as well as local businesses like fishing guides and seafood restaurants.
- Annual cases of Lyme disease, a nationally recognized indicator of climate change, have increased ten-fold in Maine since 2001. Longer, warmer summers and shorter winters mean more ticks threatening our health and jeopardizing our native moose population. An increase in ticks leads to fewer hikers, and a smaller moose population will drive down both hunter and sightseer tourism.
- Increased rainfall, severe storms, and rising sea levels are causing coastal erosion and smaller beaches, stronger storm surges, and more flooding. Increased tidal flooding caused by sea level rise has already led to nearly \$70 million in lost value right here in Maine since 2005.

We can grow Maine's economy while reducing carbon pollution and using our natural resources.

- Our experience in Maine as well as national trends show that we can grow our GDP while reducing carbon pollution.
- Investment and innovation in renewables, energy efficiency, battery storage, and electric vehicles offer exciting growth opportunities for the State.
- By transitioning to new sources of electricity generation like solar and wind, we can reduce our dependence on volatile fossil fuel imports. This also means new, good jobs in Maine in renewable energy.
- With a strong roadmap, Maine's forestry industries, farmers, and landowners could profit by managing their lands to absorb carbon into plants and soils.



LD 797 will:

- Strengthen our commitment to reduce carbon pollution 80 percent by 2050;
- Create an inclusive process that brings Mainers to the table to study our options and develop a comprehensive plan for making sure we achieve carbon reductions in a way that benefits Maine people and grows our economy; and
- Encourage investment in natural solutions to generate new revenue streams for Maine's traditional industries like farming and forestry.

Support LD 797: An Act To Limit Greenhouse Gas Pollution and Effectively Use Maine's Natural Resources

For more information, contact Dylan Voorhees, Natural Resources Council of Maine, 207-430-0112, dvoorhees@nrcm.org or Emily K. Green, Conservation Law Foundation, 207-228-2727, egreen@clf.org



Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition

is a partnership of 34 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.

We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to make wise use of Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine communities can thrive.

Acadia Center	Maine People's Alliance
Appalachian Mountain Club	Maine Public Health Association
Atlantic Salmon Federation	Maine Rivers
Bicycle Coalition of Maine	Maine Wilderness Guides Organization
Conservation Law Foundation	Midcoast Conservancy
Environmental Health Strategy Center	Natural Resources Council of Maine
Environment Maine	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
Friends of Casco Bay	RESTORE: The North Woods
Islesboro Island Trust	Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
Maine Association of Conservation Commissions	Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative
Maine Audubon	The Ocean Conservancy
Maine Center for Economic Policy	The Trust for Public Land
Maine Conservation Alliance	The Wilderness Society
Maine Council of Churches	Toxics Action Center
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited	Upstream
Maine Interfaith Power & Light	350 Maine
Maine Lakes Society	
Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association	