



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony of Representative Lydia Blume introducing LD1096, An Act To Improve Shoreland Zoning Rules and Enforcement To Support Municipalities April 19, 2017

Good afternoon, Senator Saviello, Representative Tucker and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. My name is Representative Lydia Blume, and I represent the coastal portion of the town of York. I am here today to introduce LD1096, An Act To Improve Shoreland Zoning Rules and Enforcement To Support Municipalities.

This bill has been derived from the good work done by the Shoreland Zoning Working Group, whose creation was called for by this committee in the 127th Legislature, and it contains some of their recommendations.

This bill essentially gives more teeth to the code enforcement officers (CEOs) to be able to enforce Maine's important shoreland zoning laws. There are three areas of shoreland zoning that this bill affects:

- It strengthens code enforcement officer training
- It increase the upper limit of civic penalties
- It requires photographs with applications for shoreland zoning permits.

I want to thank Garrison Beck from the Midcoast Conservancy for helping me carefully craft this legislation and seeking input from the DEP and the DECD to be able to present this important bill.

Mr. Beck will be speaking after me to present the details of the measure.

Thank you very much for your consideration.