

May 21, 2020

Governor Mills
Office of the Governor
1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Dear Governor:

We are writing to express our appreciation for your continued strong support for the work of the Maine Climate Council and your steadfast leadership in addressing the threat that climate change poses to Maine's economy, environment, and communities.

These are extremely challenging times for Maine and the nation. The pandemic is causing unprecedented hardship and uncertainty for Maine people and businesses, and we recognize that your top focus must be, and rightfully is, the health and future of our state.

While we work together as citizens of Maine to address these immediate health and economic challenges, we share your determination to also focus on other challenges that will face Maine in the years ahead. Climate change is one such challenge.

The Maine Climate Council is doing important work as it evaluates policy options for achieving the requirement in Maine law to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050. We believe this goal can be achieved with investments in transportation, energy, and infrastructure, and programs for sustainable management of our farms, forests, and natural resources that will provide long-term health and economic benefits for the people of Maine.

A strong Climate Action Plan will create good-paying jobs with benefits and protections that help address the financial impacts and unemployment caused by the pandemic.

Thank you for the work you are doing as our governor, including your and your Administration's continued support for the vital work of the Maine Climate Council.

Respectfully,

A Climate to Thrive
Acadia Center
Appalachian Mountain Club
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Blue-Green Alliance
Center for an Ecology-Based Economy
Coastal Enterprises Inc.
Conservation Law Foundation
Environment Maine
Maine Association of Conservation
Commissions
Maine Audubon
Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Maine Conservation Voters

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners
Association
Maine People's Alliance
Maine Public Health Association
Maine Rivers
Maine Unitarian Universalist State
Advocacy Network
Natural Resources Council of Maine
Physicians for Social Responsibility
RESTORE: The North Woods
Sierra Club
Southern Maine Conservation
Collaborative
The Nature Conservancy in Maine
350 Maine