TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST L.D. 26

"An Act To Provide Complimentary Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses to Retired Game Wardens with 25 Years of Service"

SPONSORED BY: Representative TIM THERIAULT of China.

CO-SPONSORED BY: Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec and Representatives: HANLEY of Pittston, LYFORD of Eddington, MASON of Lisbon, NADEAU of Winslow, REED of Carmel, SKOLFIELD of Weld, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

DATE OF HEARING: January 30, 2019

Good afternoon Senator Dill, Representative Nadeau and members of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee. I am Judy Camuso, Acting Commissioner of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, speaking on behalf of the Department, neither for nor against **L.D. 26**

This bill allows a retired game warden with 25 years of service to receive a complimentary lifetime license to hunt, trap and fish. The Department supports the concept of LD 26 but would like the Committee to consider honoring all retired Department employees with a minimum of 25 years of service with this benefit. We would suggest that this impact only those who retire after the date the law goes into effect, not former retirees. There would be a fiscal impact to consider.

I would be glad to answer any questions at this time or during the work session.