

**ACTION ALERT: LePage vs. the Environment, Environment Maine, 1.27.2010**

On Sunday, Governor Paul LePage sent the Maine legislature an outrageous and sweeping package of 63 rollbacks to our state's core environmental and public health protections. [1] It's our worst fears coming true.

If passed, the changes would increase air pollution, expose Mainers to mercury, lead, and other toxic chemicals, open the North Woods to rampant development, threaten wildlife, make companies that break the rules less accountable, and more. These attacks threaten the heart of what makes our state a special place to live, work, and visit.

But we have a great chance to stop these rollbacks, since the legislature is just now figuring out what to do with the Governor's proposal. Maine voters have never supported this kind of anti-environmental agenda. If we speak out now, we can convince enough state legislators to oppose it in order to stop this reckless proposal in its tracks.

**[E-mail your Senator and Representative to tell them to reject the governor's rollbacks and to instead safeguard Maine's treasured environment.](#)**

Most Democrats oppose Governor LePage's proposal, and many Republicans in the state legislature support protecting the environment too -- that's been a strong tradition for decades. Now, these Republicans need to choose their political party or the environment. And Democrats need to know that we expect them to fight as hard as they possibly can.

Don't let Governor LePage get away with trampling on our environmental and public health safeguards. **[E-mail your Senator and Representative today.](#)**

Among the rollbacks proposed by the governor include:

- Repealing the Kid-Safe Products Act, which is working to get toxic chemicals out of everyday products;
- Eliminating requirements to reduce sulfur – a dangerous lung irritant and major source of the haze that ruins scenic vistas – in heating fuel;
- Weakening protections for wildlife;
- Opening up at least 30 percent of the North Woods and other areas governed by the Land Use Regulatory Committee to development;
- Abolishing the Board of Environmental Protection, the citizen board that gives Mainers an important voice in environmental policymaking; and
- Weakening tools that hold companies that violate the law accountable, including reducing fines for environmental violations and sharply limiting the time period during which companies can be held liable for environmental violations.

And that's just the start of the six-page list.

**[Take action now, and forward this e-mail to your family and friends.](#)**

Sincerely,

Emily Figdor  
Environment Maine Director

[1] "[Moving Maine Backwards](#)," *Bangor Daily News*, Jan. 25, 2011