



MAINE
Unitarian Universalist
State Advocacy Network

PO Box 8, Augusta, ME 04330
admin@muusan.org

1/24/2022 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

LD 1875 An Act To Address Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution from State-owned Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

Dear Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources: My name is Deborah Crump, I live in West Paris, and am testifying in support of LD 1875 on behalf of Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN). As a healthcare provider I am concerned about the impact of PFAS on the health and welfare of Maine people. These chemicals are not going to breakdown in the environment and are linked to several types of cancer and lowered immune response. In the case of solid waste facilities such as Juniper Ridge, PFAS are known to leach into the rainwater that collects at the bottom of the landfill, is pumped out, and sent to waste water treatment facilities. This water requires specialized treatment to remove the PFAS so it is not a danger to people and the environment.

I am a Unitarian Universalist and a member of the First Universalist Church of Norway. My faith is informed by our seven principles, including the inherent worth and dignity of every person and justice, equality and compassion in human relations. A primary concern for me is the impact of the current practice of releasing waste water into the Penobscot River. I stand with the Penobscot people who are concerned about the impact of this practice on the river and fish, thus exposing them disproportionately to these harmful chemicals.

I urge unanimous passage of LD 1875 to ensure our state-owned landfills follow best practices for disposing of its leachate by appropriately treating it to decrease the concentration of these "forever" chemicals, either onsite, or at a specialized facility.

Sincerely,

Deborah Crump

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Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network
LD 1875

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