

April 28, 2023

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Maine Health & Human Services Committee  
210 State Street (Cross Building)  
Augusta, Maine 04330

Re: Testimony in favor of LD 1006 (HP0642) An Act Concerning Testing for and Disclosure of PFAS Contamination of Residential Drinking Water Wells” Sponsored by Laurie Osher

Dear HHS Committee,

Please vote to pass LD 1006.

The reason my family has stayed in Maine is not only because its home, but also because of our deep belief that unlike other states, our state government’s highest priority was to make sure we have a clean, healthy environment and that we would be in safe hands if there was ever an environmental or economic disaster. Unfortunately, a horrific environmental and economic disaster has occurred due to toxic PFAS contamination of land and drinking water by the state’s licensing of toxic sludge and the retail sales of toxic sludge compost to landscapers, home gardeners and farms.

The source of some water supply contamination found by the state’s investigations (25 schools with 99 still to go) can’t be traced to any known sources which indicates that there may be many more contaminated water wells located anywhere in the state. There is simply no way to track down all the possible locations of the contamination because much is from retail sales products. What the state has been able to trace, contaminated wells in 22 Maine towns so far, does not predict favorable outcomes for other towns in the state. This inability to track down sources and contaminated locations places the burden on every homeowner with a well to pay \$300+ for contamination testing or else have to live in constant stress & fear every day of harm to their health from drinking & bathing with water that may be contaminated by them or their neighbors use of this toxin in their home garden/land/farm.

It is good that the state is providing free water filtration systems to those who have found water contamination but this is not enough. If the state truly wants to protect us from this toxin and unhealthy chronic stress that leads to many dis-eases, the state should pay the cost of testing for any and every resident with a well who wants it. Prevention is always cheaper than the economic cost of an unhealthy population dealing with stress dis-eases and illness linked to PFAS poisoning.

Sincerely,  
Dianne Wilkins