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LD 1473

Testimony in support of
LD 1473 “An Act to Protect Certain Unfiltered Drinking Water Sources”

May 1, 2023

LD 1473 is necessary to support clean drinking water in Maine communities.

Maine is fortunate to have nine waivers of filtration for public drinking water sources. There are only 39 of these waivers allowed in the country. LD 1473 will exempt the sensitive water sheds in these nine areas from additional development from legislation passed in the last session.

Allowing more development in these nine watersheds may cause deterioration of these water supplies which will lead to the revocation of these waivers. This would necessitate the building and maintenance of filtration systems. These systems will cost multimillions of dollars to build and maintain. These nine public water supplies have some of the lowest user costs in the state. If filtration systems have to be built and maintained, the users costs may double.

An exemption from increased development in these watersheds will not affect increased development outside of these areas. The exemptions of these areas will prevent an unnecessary cost increase to users.

There are already increased threats to these public water supplies from climate change and other sources which we cannot immediately control. LD 1473 is a threat we can and should control.

Some parts of Poland are connected to the Auburn Water District. Our users would be directly affected by the necessity of having an expensive filtration system installed.

Please vote to support ld 1473.

Thank you.

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