

Anna Siegel
Yarmouth
LD 2077

Dear Senator Lawrence, Representative Ziegler, and members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee,

My name is Anna Siegel, and I am a resident of Yarmouth. I am testifying in favor of LD 2077 because I have a family member with severe asthma and another disorder that is triggered by particulates in the air. Days that look sunny blue for others are chokingly polluted for her. There are days where all I can do is speak for her, find the inhaler, try to ignore the wheezes, and hope it will get better. But I no longer have to cross my fingers and hope--LD 2077 is a solution for my family member and for everyone who struggles because of air pollution. Burning gas for cooking and heating creates indoor air pollution linked to asthma in children, exposes people to carcinogens like benzene, and contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone or smog. Poor air quality and the associated impacts are notoriously inequitable. Pre-existing and chronic health conditions exacerbated by air pollution are associated with race, income, and age. We can clear our air and prevent all-too-common diseases such as asthma that afflict many Mainers, particularly children and marginalized communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please vote 'ought to pass' on LD 2077.

Sincerely,
Anna Siegel
Yarmouth, Maine resident
Waynflete School student