



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

TESTIMONY
OF
JEFFREY S. CRAWFORD
DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF AIR QUALITY
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AN ACT TO REQUIRE RULES DESIGNED TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE TO
INCLUDE ESTIMATES OF THE REDUCTION IN ADVERSE CLIMATE EFFECTS
AND OF THE COST TO CONSUMERS

SPEAKING NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST L.D. 495

PRESENTED BY REP. FAULKINGHAM

BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DATE OF HEARING:

February 24, 2025

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Committee, I am Jeffrey S. Crawford, Director of the Bureau of Air Quality at the Department of Environmental Protection, speaking neither for nor against L.D. 495.

This bill would require the Department to estimate the level of adverse effects on the climate that will be prevented when adopting rules designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, along with the costs associated with the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions including the impact on the prices of gasoline, diesel fuel, electricity, heating oil and propane.

Since the Department has experience estimating the emission impacts of rules, including rules addressing greenhouse gases, and the Maine Administrative Procedures Act already requires an economic impact statement if a rule will adversely affect small businesses, or will financially impact municipalities, this proposal should not impose a significant burden on the Department's resources.

Although the proposal is not unreasonably burdensome, it should not apply when the Department's rulemaking actions are undertaken in response to a legislative directive following the lawmaking process. For example, in 2021, the Legislature enacted "*An Act to Limit the Use of Hydrofluorocarbons to Fight Climate Change*" (P.L. 2021, ch. 192), which directed the Department to promulgate rules implementing hydrofluorocarbon use restrictions. The Department adopted 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 147, *Hydrofluorocarbon Prohibitions*, effective January 2022 to implement the statutory limitations enacted in Title 38, § 1613.¹

I'm joined here today by members of the Bureau of Air Quality technical staff, and together we would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.

¹ In 2021, the Legislature similarly enacted "*An Act to Establish Appliance and Energy Efficiency Standards*" (P.L. 2021, ch. 433). The Department's 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 180, *Appliance Efficiency Standards* rule were adopted effective November 2022.