

Edward Nachamie  
Orono, ME  
LD 222  
Wednesday, February 26th, 2025

To: Representative Daniel Ankeles, and honorable members of the committee,  
From: Edward Nachamie

Re: An Act to Establish a Take-back and Disposal Program for Firefighting and Fire-suppressing Foam to Which Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Have Been Added

My name is Edward Nachamie and I live in Orono, Maine. I attend the University of Maine at Orono and am studying Ecology and Environmental Sciences. For the past 5 months, I have been working on a paper chronicling the legislative history of PFAS regulation in Maine and throughout the United States. My research has shown me that these compounds pose a profound and existential threat to the health of millions of Americans. The spill at Brunswick Naval Base that occurred in August of 2024 is of particular concern to me considering it was the largest AFFF fire fighting foam spill in Maine's history and the sixth-largest in the U.S. in the past 30 years. This spill threatens the integrity of surface waters and their surrounding ecosystems as well as adjacent drinking water sources. The health impacts of PFAS compounds are clear and alarming: ranging from increased risk of certain types of cancer to decreased immune system function and endocrine disruption. The threat that these compounds pose to public health and the environment is serious and alarming. The program proposed by LD 222 would be invaluable in creating safeguards and protections against the further spread of AFFF fire fighting foam. Protecting citizens and the environment from further exposure to these dangerous compounds is necessary to safeguard the health of future generations of Mainers and the integrity of the environment. By identifying a program for collection and the safe and contained disposal of AFFF fire fighting foam, we can ensure that less of Maine's population is exposed to these compounds. By identifying sites for collection and disposal of these compounds, the risk of future spills in Maine can be controlled and negated which will protect public health and the environment. Please support and make sure that LD 222 passes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward Nachamie