

Submitted Written Testimony Example – Writing In Support

Ruth Hart

Orono

LD 407

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025

To: Clerk Robert B. Hunt, Representative Ankeles, President Daughtry, Representative Arford, Representative Bell, Representative Golek, Representative Hepler, Representative Macias, Representative Rielly, Representative Sinclair, Representative Webb, and Honorable members of the committee

From: Ruth Hart

Re: Testimony in Support of LD 407, a Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Healthy Environment

My name is Ruth Hart and I attend college in Orono, Maine. I am writing to encourage you to vote “ought to pass” on LD 407. This bill would ensure that a process to remove aqueous film-forming foam PFAS from the Brunswick Naval Air Station will be initiated. I grew up in a military family, and as such, military life, including the Brunswick Air Station and the air shows I have watched there, means much to me. Another critical piece of my identity is my love and appreciation of the outdoors. Having had the privilege of growing up in Maine and developing a deep connection to the outdoors led to my desire to pursue a career in science, specifically in either the field of conservation or human health, because these two areas are critically connected. When we act to benefit our environment, we act to benefit ourselves; and perhaps there is no better demonstration of this than the case of PFAS. Not only do these chemicals pervade and degrade our environment, they are detrimental to our health and are unavoidable to those who choose to live or spend time in and around the Brunswick Air Station. This could be whether it appears through our drinking water, the water we swim in, or the puddles that we slosh through on our way to watch the air show. In the name of the right of everyone to enjoy their life without worrying about involuntary danger to their health, I exhort you to pass LD 407 and improve the standard of living for not just our wildlife, but also our friends, our family, and ourselves.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Hart