

Edward Nachamie

Orono, ME

LD 407

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025

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

From: Edward Nachamie

Re: An Act to Prohibit the Use of Aqueous Film-forming Foam at the Former Brunswick Naval Air Station

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. By prohibiting the use of AFFF fire fighting foam at Brunswick Naval Air Station, it will prevent the further contamination of the surrounding drinking and surface waters of the Brunswick area. The prohibition and enforcement of this rule by the DEP will also act as a protective measure against further spills and contamination from the Brunswick Naval Air Station. Please support and make sure that LD 407 passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Nachamie