

Ruben Hunter
Portland
LD 222

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Portland ME
LD 407

Wednesday, February 26th, 2025

To: Representative Daniel Ankeles, and Honorable members of the committee
From: Ruben Hunter

Re: Testimony in Support of LD 407, An act to Prohibit the Use of Aqueous
Film-Forming Foam at the Former Brunswick Naval Air Station

My name is Ruben Hunter and I live in Portland and I go to school in Orono, Maine at the University of Maine. I am writing as a student, activist and a concerned young citizen to urge you to vote "ought to pass" on LD 222. Modern AFFF formulations also contain fluorinated surfactants such as perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). These chemicals give AFFF its fire-extinguishing properties. However, PFOS, PFOA, and related per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are also linked to serious health effects in humans and animals. The Act ensures that all Mainers have the right to a clean and healthy environment for generations to come. Our right to a clean and healthy environment should be as fundamental as our right to vote. It is a human right and the government should support that. All Mainers- past, present and future- deserve a right to this way of life. After all, the state motto is - "the way life should be."

Respectfully submitted,
Ruben Hunter