

Arleigh Kraus
Warren
LD 704

Arleigh A. Kraus
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LD704 An Act to Clarify Performance Standards for Quarries

Testimony in support of LD704

Senator Talbot Ross, Representative Pluecker, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry.

My name is Arleigh Kraus. I reside in Warren. I am a board member of Citizens Against Residential Mining Activities (CARMA). I am a small business owner and farmer as well as a policy consultant focused on marine debris removal of PFAS contaminated waste.

I am testifying in support of LD704 a bill that would issue and improve quarrying standards for quarry operations using blasting.

Currently several towns in Maine have quarry blasting occurring which is disruptive to the surrounding communities. The noise and concussion from explosions causes house foundations to crack, plaster to fall off of walls, furniture to fall and windows to shake. There are also instances of well casings cracking.

The constant blasting is extremely loud and causes headaches and stress. The constant concussions also causes stress for animals.

Regulations specific to times blasting is appropriate and strict adherence to a time schedule is absolutely necessary. We need to have in place specific agreements on when it is acceptable for blasting to occur for the safety and wellbeing of the community adjacent to quarries with blasting operations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully, Arleigh Kraus