

Testimony of the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board LD 231, An Act to Update the Solid Waste Management Hierarchy Date of Hearing: March 17, 2025

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and esteemed members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board for the City of Auburn, is submitting testimony against LD 231, An Act to Update the Solid Waste Management Hierarchy.

As the primary municipal "owner" of Maine Waste to Energy, the City of Auburn recognizes the value of an incineration facility, as it reduces the volume of waste requiring land disposal. However, moving incineration above the recycling of waste and the composting of biodegradable waste would not align with the state's overall goal to reduce the need for disposal, since both aim to generate less waste from the start. In closing, the Sustainability and Natural Resource Management Board strongly supports the current solid waste management hierarchy outlined in 38 MRSA §2101 and opposes the proposed amendment that seeks to alter the order of priorities within the established hierarchy.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on LD 231.