

Sarah Hewitt  
Union  
LD 1073

Greetings Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and ENR Committee Members,

My name is Sarah Hewitt, I live in Union, ME and I am testifying in support of LD 1073 “An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mining Mineral Act to Advance Health Equity and Improve the Well Being of Vulnerable Populations”.

It is important to keep our citizens health and safe. In learning from other mining activities, we can see a strong correlation between mining activity and an increase in negative health effects for the people who live in mining areas through exposure to hazardous substances, dust, and pollutants, leading to respiratory, cardiovascular, and neurological problems, as well as increased risks of cancer and other diseases Any effort we can put forth preemptively to negate such ill effects shows that we are learning from our past mistakes and oversights and are protecting the citizens who you represent. Thank you.