

**Testimony of Ashley Luszczki**  
**Before the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology**  
**In Opposition to L.D. 878, Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G and Other Non-ionizing**  
**Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology on Bird, Bee, Insect and Other Wildlife**  
**Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children**  
**March 26, 2025**

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Ashley Luszczki. I am here on behalf of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce, representing a network of 5,000+ small to large businesses located across the state. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to L.D. 878, Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G and Other Non-ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology on Bird, Bee, Insect and Other Wildlife Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children.

The Chamber recognizes the importance of protecting our environment, natural resources, and the people who reside in and travel to our great state. We understand there are concerns regarding the potential environmental and health impacts associated with various forms of technology – particularly regarding potential effects on children. However, we believe this technology is well-regulated and therefore L.D. 878 is unnecessary.

First, 5G equipment has been tested and must comply with safety standards established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). These standards are designed to ensure that wireless infrastructure operates within safe limits and does not pose harm to the public. The technology is continuously monitored by the FCC, and, to our knowledge, there isn't scientific evidence showing that 5G poses health risks when used within the FCC's regulatory guidelines.

The Chamber has long supported 5G expansion in Maine because of the significant economic opportunities it brings – increasing the state's economic growth and competitiveness, and ability to close the digital divide. Access to reliable, high-speed internet is critical for Maine's businesses, workers, and communities, especially in rural areas. Furthermore, 5G can help to enable new technologies and industries to thrive here.

As you're aware, closing the digital divide in Maine remains a pressing issue – and while Maine has made great progress in this area, there are still many areas lacking access to high-speed internet. 5G technology is tool that should be utilized to address the gap, providing an alternative means of connectivity to underserved and rural regions of the state. Expanding 5G will enable rural Maine residents to participate in remote work, support small businesses that rely on digital tools to compete in a global economy, as well as access educational resources. Without these technological advancements, Maine risks falling behind other states in economic development.

A compelling example of how technologies like 5G are providing opportunities is the town of Rumford, where a public-private partnership has enabled connectivity through streetlights to offer faster and more affordable wireless access. This innovative project is helping to ensure one Maine community has access to modern communication infrastructure to be competitive and grow. While there are many, this is just one example of how 5G infrastructure can drive economic opportunity in both rural and urban settings – benefiting businesses, workers and local economies.

We believe that the expansion of 5G infrastructure in Maine will help bridge the digital divide, create economic opportunities, and improve the quality of life for residents and businesses across our state. It will foster innovation, improve access to critical services, and enhance Maine's competitiveness in the global economy. The Chamber strongly urges you to oppose L.D. 878 and support efforts that promote the expansion of reliable and affordable 5G connectivity in Maine.