Sergio Ribeiro Radiolife LD 691

Testimony by Sergio Ribeiro Founder & CEO, Radiolife

In Support of L.D. 691

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Further Investment in Maine-based Businesses

April 9, 2025

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

My name is Sergio Ribeiro, and I am the Founder and CEO of Radiolife, an early-stage biotechnology company leveraging radio frequency and AI to deliver non-invasive, rapid diagnostics from liquid samples. I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of L.D. 691 and want to thank Senator Pierce and the bill's co-sponsors for championing a bold vision for Maine's innovation economy.

Radiolife is developing a diagnostic platform capable of identifying pathogens like E. coli with no need for reagents, cultures, or trained technicians—within seconds. This work is not only groundbreaking in its scientific approach but critical in addressing the rising demand for low-cost, decentralized testing in both veterinary and human health.

We chose to base Radiolife's R&D operations in Maine because of the extraordinary support ecosystem—including the Maine Venture Fund. MVF was one of the few capital partners willing to understand our scientific risk, our long-term potential, and our passion for building solutions that scale from rural labs to global markets. Their investment catalyzed further support from private investors and allowed us to pursue feasibility studies like the E.Coli reagent-less detection, bringing our solution one step closer to commercialization.

Startups like ours face a daunting capital gap. High-potential, science-driven companies require patient capital—often at stages that traditional lenders and investors won't touch. MVF fills that gap. But for Maine to fully capitalize on the growing entrepreneurial energy here—sparked by demographic shifts, returning talent, and newly seeded innovation centers—we must give MVF the resources to scale with the opportunity.

L.D. 691 does just that. It's a timely and strategic investment in Maine's future economy. With this bond, MVF will be empowered to support a new generation of founders solving real problems in life sciences, clean tech, and advanced manufacturing—right here in Maine.

I urge you to support L.D. 691. On behalf of Radiolife and the dozens of startups shaping tomorrow's industries, thank you for believing in homegrown innovation.