

John Grossmann
South Portland
LD 25

I am writing to express my strong support of LD 25 – An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund Wastewater Treatment Facility Planning and Construction of Infrastructure Projects.

Maine acted wisely in banning the land application of PFAS-laden sludge to protect our food, water, and health. But that only begins the difficult task of combating a silent, critically serious health crisis as microfibers enter the human body in alarming concentrations. Studies have shown that human brain samples from 2024 had nearly 50 percent more microplastics than samples from 2016. Individuals diagnosed with dementia have been found to have higher levels of microplastics than in those without dementia. Other studies have found microplastics in human testes, placentas, breast milk, even a baby's first stool.

LD 25 provides a smart, long-term solution to an insidious toxic waste problem and underscore Maine's determination to lead the way on environmental health by following through on its initial effort to mitigate harm from PFAS.

By funding the installation of dryers, digesters, and pilot treatment programs at wastewater treatment facilities, this bond will reduce sludge volume, lower disposal costs, and help prevent further contamination of our environment. The Maine DEP will ensure that funds are directed where they are needed most and where they can have the greatest impact.

Clean water and healthy communities are vital to Maine's future. I urge you to support LD 25 and invest in the infrastructure we need to protect public health, our environment, and our economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
John Grossmann
South Portland