

Jeffrey Porter
MSAD 51
LD 1177

I am OPPOSED to LD 1177

We are currently in the process of installing a turf field in Cumberland-North Yarmouth. We have signed a contract with a vendor to install a PFAS-free product with no infill called pivot, the first to be installed in New England. We understand the importance of environmentally-friendly materials and took this very seriously. We had a 20-member committee that studied this for 3 months and ended up with a PFAS-free product that has won support from the Board and many stakeholders, including those who had originally been opposed to the turf field.

Our current grass field is inadequate and causes multiple injuries due to its ground conditions. Turf would help, no pun intended, level the playing field. It would also reduce the number of student athletes needing to drive to alternative places for practices, often 30 minutes or further away from our district, with students driving back late at night. This is a safety issue with young drivers on roads when they could be playing right at our high school.

Thank you for considering voting NO on this bill.