

April 10, 2025

Dear Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and members of the Committee,

I am writing in 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.**

LD 25 is more than just a policy—it's a profound ethical commitment to safeguarding the health of our land, water, people, and creatures we share resources. Maine's decision to ban the land application of PFAS-laden sludge was a necessary first step toward protecting public health and the environment from the long-term impacts of these "forever chemicals." However, this pivotal decision necessitates equally bold action to responsibly manage the legacy of contamination we've inherited.

As stewards of the Earth, we have a moral obligation to prioritize the safety and sustainability of our land and water for present and future generations. PFAS pollution threatens the purity of our water, the health of our soil, and the safety of our food chain. Left unaddressed, its pernicious toxic impacts could perpetuate harm for many decades (or forever?). Supporting LD 25 is a vital act of environmental justice, ensuring that vulnerable communities, especially those disproportionately affected by pollution, like independent Maine farmers, are not left to bear the brunt of inaction. That is unconscionable.

By funding advanced wastewater treatment solutions like dryers, digesters, and pilot programs, this bond exemplifies the principle of "do no harm." It reduces sludge volume, mitigates disposal costs, and prevents further contamination of the environment. LD 25 empowers Maine to transform a public health challenge into an opportunity for innovation and ethical leadership. It ensures that resources are directed to where they are most needed, guided by the expertise of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

As a parent and environmental chaplain, supporting LD 25 is an act of moral accountability—acknowledging the mistakes of the past and taking decisive action to correct them. This is not just about addressing PFAS today; it's about creating a cleaner, safer legacy for our children and grandchildren for many generations to come. We absolutely cannot kick this problem down the road, let's solve it here and now. Maine has the opportunity to lead by example, demonstrating that responsible governance means investing in solutions that honor our ethical duty to care for each other and the Earth.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Eco Chaplain L. Circe Moss MacDonald

Portland, Maine

Laurie Circe Moss MacDonald
Portland, Maine; Chaplaincy Institute of Maine
LD 25

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Thank you for your time and consideration,
Eco Chaplain L. Circe Moss MacDonald
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