

Testimony of the Maine Municipal Association

Neither For Nor Against

*LD 1507, An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities*

April 14, 2025

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Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Kate Dufour, and I am submitting “neither for nor against” placeholder testimony on LD 1507 because our 70-member Legislative Policy Committee will establish its official position on the bill later this week.

However, it is possible that the notification procedures outlined in the bill, which require facilities to keep the public updated on the timing of oil transfers between facilities and vessels, will be supported. Municipal officials believe that providing notice of activities, particularly those that might carry a level of controversy, is a vital step in addressing concerns, mitigating misinformation, and building solid public relations and credibility. The requirement to provide the notice is an opportunity to foster positive relationships between the facilities and impacted neighbors.

Should MMA’s official position on this bill vary from the testimony provided above, staff will submit supplemental testimony for the committee’s consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the municipal perspective on this issue.