



Janet T. Mills
Governor

Michael J. Sauschuck
Commissioner

STATE OF MAINE
Department of Public Safety
MAINE STATE POLICE

45 Commerce Drive - Suite 1
Augusta, Maine 04333



William Ross
Colonel

LTC. Brian P. Scott
Deputy Chief

Testimony of Lieutenant Mathew Casavant
Maine State Police

IN OPPOSITION (1507)

An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities
Sponsored by Representative Beck and Cosponsored by Senator Carney and Representative Dhalac
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and other distinguished members of the joint standing committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Lieutenant Mathew Casavant, and I am here to represent the Maine State Police and the Maine Department of Public Safety to testify against LD 1507, “An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities.”

The Department of Public Safety has significant concerns about the requirements of this bill as a matter of public safety and the potential for sabotage or terroristic incidents as a result of the required notifications. Requiring vessels or terminal facilities to disclose exact dates, times, and amount of oil to be transferred to the public increase’s safety concerns and the potential for bad actors to use these notifications for unlawful purposes. These notifications could be used by adversaries to take control of a vessel for financial gain or worse to initiate a terrorist attack or environmental catastrophe.

The specific requirements of this bill would increase safety concerns in opposition of what the bill is seeking to address. Requiring specificity including the name and location of the anchorage, the type of oil to be transferred, the name of the vessel or other identifier and the date and time of the transfer is concerning. Publicly disclosing this information to anyone who signs up for a notification could create significant opportunities for sabotage, theft, or worse yet attacks. An individual or individuals upon receiving these notifications could easily conduct surveillance of a vessel and take control of the vessel at sea. Maine has significant coastline, and the United States Coast Guard can’t be everywhere at once.

There are additional requirements regarding the transfer of oil to vehicles. Terminals operating throughout Maine transfer oil to vehicles many times per day. The safety and security at these terminals is crucial to the safety of the State of Maine’s infrastructure. Requiring notifications of transfers again increases safety concerns for those operating in and around these terminals.



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The increased public safety risks associated with this bill far outweigh the benefits of notifications to individuals of any potentially hazardous vapors that may be released during the transfer as the bill seeks to accomplish. We urge you to consider the many public safety issues which would result from these notifications. On behalf of the State Police and the Department of Public Safety, we appreciate your careful consideration of these issues. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Lieutenant Mathew Casavant

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