



TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

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April 14, 2025

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Committee,
c/o Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Members,

The Town of Fairfield humbly submits this statement **IN FAVOR of LD 1111, An Act to Provide Water Service Infrastructure to Fairfield Residents Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances**

- Considering Fairfield is one of if not the most impacted communities in Maine by PFAS contamination due to State of Maine licensed sludge spreading.
- Since 2021, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has followed a tiered approach to testing sites while using the Maine legislatively directive of 20 parts per trillion (ppt) for the sum of 6 PFAS compounds for drinking water standards which necessitated the immediate installation of 149 new private well filtration systems in Fairfield.
- Funds for the DEP's 2021 testing and filtration instillation program has a limited amount of shrinking funds and currently, no known additional sources of funding.
- New federal Environmental Protection Agency guidelines for Maximum Containment Levels dictate further testing is required along with the potential retesting of sites that were below the State's interim standards. DEP estimates 110 wells were between 4-20 ppt and would be eligible for treatment.
- Considering that private drinking water wells are not regulated and do not have set standards and private wells are not eligible for federal funds for remediation, the expansion of the public drinking water system in Fairfield may be the only viable option for most locations.

The Town of Fairfield is committed to ensuring its residents have access to clean drinking water, however, the Town of Fairfield should not have to suffer the burden and financial costs associated with remediating the ground water contamination that has affected our entire community. Also included in this submission is a link to the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Address the Ramifications of PFAS submitted to the Fairfield Town Council on March 12, 2025. This report explains the Town of Fairfield's current PFAS situation. Please contact me should you require any additional information.

Best Regards,



Michelle M. Flewelling, Fairfield Town Manager