

**Testimony before the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
in Support of L.D. 1507, *An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal  
Facility Transfer Activities***

**April 14, 2025**

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Sean Mahoney, and I am the Vice President and senior counsel of the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). I appreciate this opportunity to submit testimony in support of L.D. 1507, *An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities*.

CLF, founded in 1966, is a public interest advocacy group that works to solve the environmental and energy challenges threatening the people, natural resources and communities in Maine and across New England. In Maine for almost four decades, CLF is a member-supported organization that works to ensure that laws and policies are developed, implemented and enforced that protect and restore our natural resources; are good for Maine's economy and environment; and equitably address the climate crisis.

Unlike many of the bills that come before you, L.D. 1507 is a straightforward, common-sense bill that addresses a real community need – providing information that is important to the health of residents in the communities that host oil terminal facilities. The operations of oil storage tanks – whether that be in terms of transferring oil into or out from them, cleaning them or conducting other maintenance – result in the release of air pollution such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), benzene, naphthalene and air phase hydrocarbons (APHs). While that pollution is regulated by the Department, that regulation currently does not require the owners and operators of the oil storage tanks to provide the surrounding community with advanced notice of those operations. Such advanced notice would allow people in the community, especially those particularly vulnerable to the emissions of those pollutants like children, people with asthma, heart or lung ailments and otherwise immunological deficiencies, to take appropriate action to avoid the threat of increased exposure during transfer operations. Beyond review and approval of the plan, L.D. 1507 adds no new duties to the Department's portfolio and is responsive to the concerns of communities like South Portland.

We appreciate the sponsors bringing this bill forward and urge the Committee to vote Ought to Pass on L.D. 1507, *An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities*.

