

## Testimony of Andrew Marshall on LD1323, 4/15/25

My name is Andrew Marshall and I am from Montville, in Waldo County, where my family and I operate Dorolenna Farm, a vegetable and poultry operation. I am also a visiting professor of biology and environmental studies at Colby College in Waterville. I am here to testify in favor of LD 1323, because I have seen the data and read the studies, and I am deeply concerned about the impacts that these materials have had on ecosystems (pollinators in particular, but also other classes of beneficial organisms such as natural enemies) in a very short period of time - impacts that are well-known and have been described by others today. It is my considered opinion that we cannot afford to continue to design agricultural systems to be reliant on such toxic materials. I have particular concerns about the systemic use of these materials.

As a farmer, I understand and respect the position of those who are in opposition to a wholesale ban on neonics for certain crops. Perhaps such an approach is too blunt an instrument to achieve the goal of moving past our reliance on toxics in agriculture. But as an ecologist, I truly believe that the time has come to take bold and decisive action to incentivise those who are making decisions in our agricultural system - including farmers, researchers, service providers, and regulators - to continue moving towards a more ecologically rational approach to designing and managing our future farming systems. Thank you for your time.