

Tom Mikulka
Third Act Maine
LD 1326

Testimony in support of LD 1326

Dear Chairpersons Senator Ingwersen and Representative Meyer, as well as esteemed members of the Maine Legislative Committee on Health and Human Services,

Third Act Maine is a volunteer organization of over 1200 Mainers, all over the age of 60, working to strengthen democracy and end our dependence on fossil fuels. We also are concerned about the harmful chemicals made from petroleum, like PFAS, that were never tested prior to their introduction to our environment. Due to the powerful influence of petroleum and chemical industry lobbyists, the American people have become the lab test animals.

Maine has one of the worst PFAS problems in the nation due to the application of sewage sludge to farmland from the 1980s until 2022, and the 2024 spill at the Brunswick airport. It is upsetting that, as Maine DEP continues to investigate, they have identified 500 sites of land contamination (Tier 4 sites) where records show that no sludge was ever applied. They are presently at a loss to explain why.

Maine CDC has acknowledged that the current health-based limit for PFAS in drinking water needs to be updated. LD 1326 will require that Maine drinking water standards align with recently promulgated EPA maximum concentration limits for individual PFAS.

We strongly support its passage.

Submitted by Tom Mikulka, Ph.D.,CIH (ret),
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