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SANFORD SEWERAGE DISTRICT

281 River Street * P.O. Box 338 SPRINGVALE, ME 04083-0338

Testimony in Support of LD 297- "An Act Regarding the Management of Oversized Bulky Waste from Wastewater Treatment Plants"

April 24, 2025

Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and the distinguished members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. My name is André Brousseau. Superintendent of the Sanford Sewerage District, and I am providing testimony on behalf of the of the District in support of LD 297.

LD 297 is vitally important to every clean water facility in the State of Maine producing biosolids. These residuals are consistently removed from the treatment process to meet our discharge permits but most importantly protect the environment daily. Only a fraction of the water is removed during the dewatering process which is the reason landfill operators must use bulky waste to bind up the material disposed in the landfills. The landfills need to sustain their operation for safety and stability for continued landfill operation.

The District produces an average of 4000 cubic yards of biosolids per year with most of the volume converted to compost which is disposed in Hartland's landfill. The compost requires bulky waste due to its remaining moisture content.

The District is actively seeking other alternatives methods to reduce the volume of our biosolids which takes a tremendous amount of time and effort to review what the next best method/process is to save our remaining landfill space. Unfortunately, the new technology is evolving much slower than expected, therefore it is important to support the bulky waste legislation.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any follow up questions.

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