

Edward Nachamie  
Orono, ME  
LD 1604  
Monday, April 28th, 2025

To: Representative Michael Tipping, and honorable members of the committee,  
From: Edward Nachamie

Re: Testimony in Support of An Act to Protect Groundwater and Surface Waters from  
Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances from Landfill Leachate

My name is Edward Nachamie and I live in Orono, Maine. I attend the University of Maine at Orono and am studying Ecology and Environmental Sciences. For the past 6 months, I have been working on a paper chronicling the legislative history of PFAS regulation in Maine and throughout the United States. My research has shown me that these compounds pose a profound and existential threat to the health of millions of Americans. The health impacts of PFAS compounds are clear and alarming: ranging from increased risk of certain types of cancer to decreased immune system function and endocrine disruption. The threat that these compounds pose to public health and the environment is serious. Their unique ability to repel water, oil, and heat makes them extremely mobile and their unique chemical properties make them persistent in our environment.

To protect the drinking water of residents near landfills in Maine, we owe it to them to guarantee free testing of their water supplies—and it makes clear sense for the landfill licensee to foot the bill. Concerns over water quality surrounding landfills in Maine because of PFAS leakage from leachate are mounting. Several cases have been documented in Maine of community water systems and private wells finding that their drinking water is well above the state-mandated 20 ppt threshold limit and far exceeding the new national 4 ppt limit. To prevent more communities from experiencing this and incurring future costs in terms of both human health and remediation, the legislature should pass this bill to ensure proper filtration of PFAS compounds. Hopefully, this will alleviate the threat they pose to both humans and the environment. Please support and ensure that LD 1604 passes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward Nachamie