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**Testimony Neither For Nor Against LD 1326:
An Act to Protect the Drinking Water for Consumers of Certain Water Systems by Establishing
Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances**

**J. Andrew Cashman on behalf of the Maine Association of REALTORS®
April 30, 2025**

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Meyer and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Andy Cashman. I am the Founder of Resolve Government Relations. We represent the Maine Association of REALTORS®, a professional trade association established in 1936 with over 6,500 members statewide. REALTORS® protect private property rights, build Maine communities, and grow our state's economy. Our members represent buyers and sellers involved in both residential and commercial real estate transactions. Our membership also includes industry affiliates, such as lenders, closing agents, title agents, appraisers, building inspectors, surveyors, etc. The Maine Association is chartered by the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), the largest trade association in the country.

The Maine Association of REALTORS® is neither for nor against LD 1326. If passed, the bill would establish a maximum level of regulated perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances in the drinking water of community water systems and nontransient, noncommunity water systems. It would also require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to enforce monitoring of PFAS levels in water systems as determined by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

While we recognize the growing concern around these contaminants, and the value of testing to consumer health and safety, the testing requirements resulting from this proposal would have a drastic impact on the capacity of the testing infrastructure. The bill as currently drafted would exponentially increase the testing requirement, and we are concerned that the laboratories in our state are not equipped to meet the required demand within reasonable timing constraints.

MAR also has concerns about the cost associated with testing and how that will be financed. Community water systems could include a water system for a network of properties, often shared by residential property owners. Without clear parameters around increases to testing and monitoring and how that will be funded, we encourage careful consideration when crafting policies that our state and our citizens are not equipped to sustain.

Previous legislation passed in Maine implemented standards around testing and those regulations have not even been fully implemented and tested before new proposals are suggested. As noted by the Maine Water Utilities Association's testimony, "Current treatment methods address both regulated and unregulated PFAS compounds, which is good news from a public health perspective given the vast number of compounds that cannot even be detected with current analytical methods... Fixing contaminant levels in statute creates standards that are not easily adjusted based upon new research and science. Having such standards as part of agency regulations



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allows important flexibility as the science evolves... As EPA regulation of PFAS contaminant levels evolves, the standards will change over time and likely become more complex and encompassing.”

We recommend further analysis of current testing procedures and infrastructure as well as current regulations’ effectiveness before any new policies can be implemented. We respectfully urge consideration of these concerns in your deliberation of LD 1326. Thank you for your time and consideration.