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LD 1870

Senator Tepler, Representative Gramlich, and distinguished members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, I am submitting this testimony in strong support of LD 1870, An Act To Establish A Climate Superfund Cost Recovery Program To Impose Penalties On Climate Polluters

For decades, the burden of climate impacts in Maine, including flooded roads, eroding coastlines, failed crops, and warming waters have hurt communities while the true culprits — multinational oil and gas corporations — have profited enormously, even as they sowed doubt, delayed action, and denied responsibility.

We've known for years that a handful of fossil fuel companies are responsible for a staggering share of global emissions. They knew the risks. They chose profit over people. And now, they must pay their fair share toward repairing the harm they caused.

The Climate Superfund bill is a practical, fair, and necessary response. Maine taxpayers should not bear the cost of climate damages when the companies that knowingly fueled the crisis continue to post record-breaking profits.

I urge this committee to vote ought to pass on LD 1870. This bill sends a clear message: the era of corporate impunity is over and Maine will lead with courage, clarity, and care for future generations.