

**Testimony before the  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Nora Bosworth  
Conservation Law Foundation  
May 19, 2025**

**RE: Testimony in Opposition to LD 1982 – An Act to Ensure Uniformity in the Regulation of PFAS**

Good morning Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

My name is Nora Bosworth, and I am a Staff Attorney with the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). CLF's mission is to conserve natural resources, protect public health, and build healthy communities in Maine and throughout New England.

CLF adamantly **opposes** LD 1982, which would significantly undermine Maine's seminal protections against per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS") by redefining PFAS to exclude large swaths of toxic forever chemicals.

Maine's PFAS in Products Program currently and correctly defines PFAS broadly, as substances that include any member of the class of fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom. This definition aligns Maine's law with those of 23 states nationwide that have taken critical steps to protect their communities and natural resources against forever chemicals. PFAS definitions like the one offered in LD 1982 would exclude certain refrigerants and PFAS gases, harming our state. Scientists have agreed that the "high persistence, accumulation potential, and/or hazards (known and potential) of PFAS studied to date warrant treating all PFAS as a single class."<sup>1</sup>

A whack-a-mole approach will not work for a class of substances that includes over 14,000 identified chemicals.<sup>2</sup> Both the costs of cleaning up PFAS in our environment and the healthcare costs of PFAS' damage to public health are sky-high.<sup>3</sup> LD 1982 is an industry-driven attempt to roll back critical protections for Mainers.

We urge this committee to oppose this bill, and vote **ought not to pass on LD 1982.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Environ. Sci. Technol. Lett. 2020, 7, 8, 532–543, available at <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.estlett.0c00255>

<sup>2</sup> EPA, PFAS Analytic Tools, available at <https://echo.epa.gov/trends/pfas-tools>

<sup>3</sup> Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, [Groundbreaking Study Shows Unaffordable Costs of PFAS Cleanup from Wastewater](#), June 6, 2023.; Journal of Health Economics and Outcomes Research, [Study Ties 'Forever Chemicals' Exposure to Billions in US Health Costs](#), Aug. 09, 2022.



Respectfully submitted,

Nora Bosworth  
Staff Attorney, Communities and Toxics  
Conservation Law Foundation  
[nbosworth@clf.org](mailto:nbosworth@clf.org)