

Committee: Environment and Natural Resources

Date: January 28, 2026 – 1:00 PM

Bill: LD 2115 – An Act to Protect Private Wells from Hazardous Substances

Testimony of: Amy Self (Maine resident)

Position: In SUPPORT of LD 2115

Full Integrated Testimony in Support of LD 2115 – An Act to Protect Private Wells from Hazardous Substances

Senator, Representative, and distinguished members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Self, and I am submitting this testimony in strong support of LD 2115: An Act to Protect Private Wells from Hazardous Substances. I speak today both as a Maine resident and as someone who has followed PFAS contamination impacts closely across our communities, including the catastrophic PFAS Chemical Disaster of August 2024 at Brunswick Landing—the worst chemical disaster in the history of Maine and the 6th worst in the entire country.

This Disaster discharged approximately 1,450 gallons of AFFF concentrate mixed with ~50,000 gallons of water from Hangar 4 into the surrounding environment. Testing of the AFFF tank revealed PFOS concentrations exceeding 3.2 billion parts per trillion, one of the highest concentrations ever recorded in the United States.

This bill is not hypothetical. It responds to a real and ongoing public-health threat affecting Maine families every single day.

The Scope of the Problem: Maine Families Are Drinking Water Without Knowing It Is Safe.

More than 260,038 Maine households rely on private wells as their primary drinking water source.

PFAS contamination has already been found in:

- Private residential wells
- Town water supply wells-Jordan Avenue- Brunswick ME
- School drinking water systems
- Farms with and without sludge-spreading history
- Communities where the contamination source remains unknown

PFAS exposure is linked to serious health effects, including kidney cancer, immune dysfunction, reproductive harm, and developmental risk.

Compounding these risks, many Maine families go without filtration due to cost, and for those considering public water, the cost of town water hook-up—if available—remains out of reach.

Why LD 2115 Is Urgent

1. Maine has already endured the PFAS Chemical Disaster of August 2024—its worst chemical disaster ever.

Independent analyses confirm it to be the worst chemical disaster in Maine's history and the 6th worst in the United States.

2. Entire neighborhoods still have no access to safe water.

Communities surrounding Brunswick Landing and Princes Point Road remain without reliable access to safe drinking water over **one year and nearly six months after the worst chemical disaster in Maine.**

3. Documented Impacts to Public Water Systems and Local Wells

- Jordan Avenue Well Field – Brunswick & Topsham Water District (BTWD): Well field taken offline due to PFAS detection.
- Mere Creek Golf Course Well: PFAS6 detected at 33.1 ppt, PFOS at 19.9 ppt.
- Groundwater Around Hangars: PFOS detected at ~170,000 ppt, total PFAS above 300,000 ppt.

4. Downstream Watershed Impacts

PFAS detected in:

- Brunswick Sewer District system
- Mare Brook
- Harpswell Cove
- Androscoggin River

5. Peer-Reviewed Science Confirms Long-Term Risk

Recent studies show continued downstream transport and persistence of PFAS contamination.

LD 2115 Fills a Critical Public-Health Gap

LD 2115 creates an actionable monitoring and testing system to:

- Provide reliable well-water testing
- Map contamination early
- Ensure affected households are not abandoned

Maine Cannot Wait

The PFAS Disaster exposed weaknesses in oversight. Entire neighborhoods lack safe water while PFAS continues to move through groundwater, ponds, wetlands, and connected waterways.

LD 2115 is a necessary corrective and a moral imperative.

Conclusion: I urge the Committee to support LD 2115 and vote to Pass on LD 2115.

Every Mainer deserves safe drinking water. Every parent deserves to protect their children. Every community deserves decisive action.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to protecting Maine families.

Amy Self

Home Owner

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