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## Testimony on L.D. 499, "*An Act to Prohibit Geoengineering*"

Presented by  
**Representative Tracy L. Quint**  
District 8

Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Good afternoon, Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

I am State Representative Tracy L. Quint, and I proudly represent District 8. It is an honor to appear before you today for the purpose of speaking to L.D. 499, "*An Act to Prohibit Geoengineering.*"

Thank you for this opportunity to discuss a topic that some of my constituents have reached out to me with concerns over. Geoengineering is a truly fascinating science. I am amazed at the number of people who believe this to be in the realm of "conspiracy theories" or things that are not true.

Our government and governments around the world have used, and are using, this technology within the United States, Russia, China, India, and the United Arab Emirates, just to name a few. Individual states and companies have also joined in.

Cloud seeding or the use of "chemtrails" entails spraying particulates or chemicals, such as silver iodide, into clouds to affect their development. Geoengineering has been used in storm

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prevention/alteration, hurricane modification, and weather warfare. Yes, warfare, by our government.

Operation Popeye is an example of military cloud-seeding in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. The United Nations addressed the issue of "hostile weather warfare" in 1977 at the United Nations Environmental Modification Convention. While our country uses this technology to remain a dominant force in air and space, there can be disastrous consequences.

Western Saudi Arabia was damaged by floods in 2009 that reportedly killed more than 100 people due to ineffective drainage systems' ability to handle the excess precipitation from their weather modification project. China has spent millions of dollars to alter weather before major gatherings, such as the Beijing Olympics and promotes artificial rainfall and hail suppression. The United Arab Emirates has been cloud seeding with potassium chloride, sodium chloride, and magnesium among other materials to increase rainfall by 15-30% each year.

These artificial rainstorms can cause hail, gales, and thunderstorms. This can cause issues in patterns of rainfall for surrounding areas, as well.

Canada and the United States have had an agreement since 1975 to share information on weather modification activity within our countries. Within our borders, Idaho Power has utilized cloud seeding to supplement its hydroelectric power generation for nearly two decades by increasing the annual snowpack. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has been tasked by the Secretary of Commerce to record weather modification projects since 1971. Were you aware of any of this?

Many people have been questioning the effects of the fallout of these particulates coming down on us in our precipitation -- mainly fog, rain, and snow. Do these metallics and chemicals pose a health concern for us, animals, or crops?

Recently, the American public has become more vocal in questioning the safety of weather manipulation. In 2024, Tennessee banned "the intentional injection, release, or dispersion of chemicals with the express purpose of affecting temperature, weather, or the intensity of the sunlight" within Tennessee. Florida has a bill in that "prohibits certain acts intended to affect the temperature, the weather, or the intensity of the sunlight within the atmosphere of this state." Iowa has in a bill to ban the emission of air contaminants into the atmosphere to intentionally alter the weather. There are many questions, but one that we should really be asking is does the State of Maine even know what is aerosolized in our skies, and do we want to allow others dominion over our skies without our consent.

Thank you for your time and consideration.