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**Testimony of Dillon Murray,
Legislative Liaison, Maine Department of Labor
In Opposition to
LD 1407, An Act to Direct the Board of Occupational Safety and Health to Develop Indoor
Air Quality Standards for Buildings in the State in Which Public Sector Workers Work
To the Joint Standing Committee on Labor
Hearing, April 8, 2025**

Good afternoon Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor. My name is Dillon Murray, Legislative Liaison for the Maine Department of Labor (Department). I am here today to speak on behalf of the Department in respectful opposition to LD 1407, "An Act to Direct the Board of Occupational Safety and Health to Develop Indoor Air Quality Standards for Buildings in the State in Which Public Sector Workers Work."

We appreciate the bill's intent to improve indoor air quality in public sector workspaces. The Department would like to note that we are already actively working toward this goal. The Department convenes the Maine Indoor Air Quality Working Group, which meets monthly to research best practices and develop Indoor Air Quality Guidelines for public sector spaces in the state. This group includes academic, public, and private sector experts and is specifically tasked with drafting appropriate standards.

In addition, we have some concerns regarding the scope of LD 1407. The bill expands the definition of "air quality" to include hazards such as lead, asbestos, radon, and pesticides. These are important health concerns, but they are typically regulated by other state and federal entities or not under the scope of a workplace air quality survey. The Board of Occupational Safety and Health does not currently have authority over some of these areas, and incorporating them could create overlap or confusion with existing regulatory frameworks.

We appreciate the focus on worker health and safety and welcome ongoing collaboration as we continue developing Maine-specific air quality guidance.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have now or at a future work session.

The Maine Department of Labor is committed to serving Maine workers and businesses by helping employers recruit and train a talented workforce, providing workers with skills needed to compete in our economy, assisting individuals when jobs are lost, aiding people with disabilities reach career goals, ensuring safe and fair workplaces for people on the job and providing research and analysis of employment data to support job growth.