

## **Testimony of Pleasant River Lumber Company**

Before the Environment and Natural Resources Committee Regarding LD 1423, "An Act to Improve Recycling by Updating the Stewardship Program for Packaging"

April 2025

Dear Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

Pleasant River Lumber Company appreciates the opportunity to support of LD 1423. While we fully support recycling and protecting our environment, we believe the program in its current state will make things harder for businesses like ours because it adds costs and rules that will hurt small and medium-sized businesses, and comparable costs won't be imposed on our competitors located outside of our state and country.

Unless the definition of consumer is fixed, the program will incentivize manufacturers and producers to source materials and goods from outside Maine, hurting businesses all along the supply chain. This would have a significant impact on the rural communities in which we operate.

For these reasons, we support LD 1423 and urge the committee to support the MFPC amendment. It strikes an important balance and brings fairness to the program while recognizing the contributions of our \$8 billion heritage industry.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeff Desjardins

Pleasant River Lumber Company