

## Testimony on LD 1982 – Given by Jeremiah Winslow

Good morning, Chairperson and members of the committee,

My name is Jeremiah Winslow and I'm here to support LD 1982 and to speak out against Maine's current, overly broad definition of PFAS.

Right now, the law in Maine treats *any* chemical with just one fluorinated carbon as dangerous. But that's scientifically and practically absurd. Under this definition, we're not just banning harmful substances—we're sweeping up well-known, beneficial, and essential compounds too.

Let me read you a short list of chemicals that would be caught in this net:

**Fluoxetine** (FLOO-ax-uh-teen) – better known as Prozac, a lifesaving antidepressant.

**Fluorouracil** (floor-oh-YOUR-uh-sill) – a frontline chemotherapy drug. •

**Fluticasone** (floo-TICK-uh-sown) – a common asthma inhaler component.

**Atorvastatin** (uh-TOR-vuh-stat-in) – a cholesterol-lowering medication used by millions.

**Flecainide** (FLECK-uh-nide) – a heart rhythm stabilizer.

**Ciprofloxacin** (sip-ro-FLOX-uh-sin) – a commonly prescribed antibiotic.

**Efavirenz** (eh-FAH-vir-enz) – used to treat HIV.

**Bifenthrin** (bi-fen-thrin) – used to control ticks around homes and schools

Let me give you a simple analogy:

There's olive oil... and then there's engine oil. Both are oils—but one goes in salad, the other goes in a car. Would we ban the *consumption of all oils* just because engine oil is toxic?

That's what this law is doing. It fails to distinguish between safe, everyday substances and truly dangerous, forever chemicals.

LD 1982 is not about weakening environmental protection—it's about applying *scientific reason* and *regulatory clarity* so that Maine doesn't outlaw helpful, even life-saving compounds by accident.

Please support this bill. Let's make Maine's PFAS laws effective, responsible, and scientifically sound, Thank you.

Thank you.

Jeremiah Winslow