

Gail Williams
Liberty

I support LD 125 and ask that it become law in Maine for these reasons: Forestry herbicides threaten public health, ecological systems, and local farms.

- Some of Maine's large forest landowners routinely use aerial spraying of hazardous chemicals to manage their property.
- Glyphosate, the most commonly used herbicide in forest management, is linked to serious health impacts. It may cause chromosomal damage, harm fetal development, reduce liver and kidney function, and lead to endocrine disruption.
- Aerial herbicide spraying reduces food and habitat for wildlife and results in chemical persistence in the environment. The U.S. EPA has found that glyphosate likely threatens nearly every animal and plant species on the U.S. list of threatened and endangered species.
- Herbicide spray drift can travel great distances – even miles – and threaten the health and economic livelihood of organic farmers. Contaminated produce cannot be marketed as organic, and farm families whose land is contaminated by pesticide drift must surrender their organic certification for three years, through no fault of their own.

Thank you.