

The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Testimony in Support Of

**LD 524 An Act To Require Schools To Submit Pest Management Activity Logs to the Board of Pesticides Control and the Posting of Inspection Results for the Purpose of Providing Information to the Public**

Chairman Dill, Chairwoman O'Neil, and Honorable Committee Members: Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of **LD 524 An Act To Require Schools To Submit Pest Management Activity Logs to the Board of Pesticides Control and the Posting of Inspection Results for the Purpose of Providing Information to the Public.**

My name is Jacquelyn Elliott and I live in Waterboro, Maine. As someone who is chemically injured and particularly adversely affected when exposed to pesticides and like toxic chemicals, it is important for me to have as much information as possible about applications of these products to prevent unknowing contact with these substances.

The school environment is a place where such information is critical. LD 524 is an important step to provide especially parents with pertinent information about the safety of the schools their children attend. Pesticide application is harmful for all children, but particularly for children with existing health problems and other vulnerabilities. Parents should have the necessary data to make informed choices about protecting their children from unnecessary harm.

LD 524 would be a useful tool for teachers and staff as well who would want to avoid needless exposure to toxic pesticides. I would argue that it is the public's right to such information as this legislation would require to be maintained.

LD 524 would provide a record of what methods a school is using to control pests in its structures and grounds. That information could identify overuse of poisonous substances in the school environment and would be useful in assessing and planning for effective pest management utilizing less lethal and more sustainable methods. Thereby providing a healthier environment for students, teachers, and staff.

Elliott  
LD 524  
In Support

I urge you to pass this legislation out of Committee as Ought To Pass. Thank you for considering my comments. My contact information follows at the end.

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