



Maine Forest Products Council

The voice of Maine's forest economy

Companies represented on the MFPC Board

American Forest Mgmt.
Baskahegan Co.
BBC Lands LLC
Bradbury Forest Mgmt.
Columbia Forest Prod.
Cross Insurance
Family Forestry
Farm Credit East
Fontaine Inc.
H.C. Haynes
Huber Resources
Innovative Natural
Resource Solutions
J.D. Irving
Katahdin Forest Mgmt.
Key Bank
LandVest Inc.
Limington Lumber
Louisiana Pacific
Maibec Logging
ND Paper
Nicols Brothers
Pingree Associates
Pixelle Specialty Sol.
Pleasant River Lumber
Prentiss & Carlisle
ReEnergy
Richard Wing & Son
Robbins Lumber
Sappi North America
Southern Maine Forestry
Stead Timberlands
TD Bank
Timber Resource Group
Timberstate G.
Wadsworth Woodlands
Wagner Forest Mgt.
Weyerhaeuser

Testimony opposing LD 1159 An Act To Amend the Membership Requirements of the Board of Pesticides Control

April 13, 2021

Patrick Strauch, Executive Director

Senator Dill, Representative O'Neil and distinguished members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee, I am Patrick Strauch from Exeter, Maine, and the executive director of the Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC). I represent Maine's forest product industry, which contributes more than \$8 billion to the state's economy, and more than 33,000 direct and indirect jobs.

MFPC opposes LD 1159 Because the composition of the Board relies on technical and practical experience in the area of pesticide uses.

The BPC's job is to oversee and regulate pesticides in Maine and they do it well. They listen to all parties and base their decision on sound science.

Nor is there any need to change the definition of the public members on the BPC.

A similar bill, LD 36 An Act To Change the Composition of the Board of Pesticides Control, was brought to the ACF Committee in the 129th Legislature. The majority report amended the bill to strike the requirement that public members represent different areas of the state and have a "demonstrated interest in environmental protection." Instead, the majority report that became public law, requires that one of the two public members have practical experience and knowledge of methods of sustainable management of indoor and outdoor. **As the ACF Committee decided last session, there is no need for this change in the BPC Board.**

The provisions to require one of the two public members to have practical experience in indoor or outdoor pests I believe was in recognition that residential home use of pesticides was identified as a gap in the set of seven representatives to the board.

The Council urges you to **vote ought not to pass on LD 1159.**

Thank you.