

**Testimony
Patrick Vaillancourt
Owner, Northern Turf Management
April 13th, 2021**

**Opposed to LD 1159
“An Act To Amend the Membership Requirements of The Board of
Pesticides Control”**

Senator Dill, Representative O’Neil, and members of the joint standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, my name is Patrick Vaillancourt and I am the owner/operator of Northern Turf Management, a specialty turf and plant health care company in Cyr Plantation, ME. **I am opposed to LD 1159**

“An Act To Amend the Membership Requirements of The Board of Pesticides Control”

I have been in the turf and ornamental health care industry since 2012, with a BS degree in Environmental Horticulture from the University of Maine and an AS degree in Turfgrass Management from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Stockbridge School of Agriculture. You have heard from me regarding several bills lately.

LD 1159 seeks to change the membership requirements of the two public board members from a position of knowledge and experience to that of demonstrated interest. I feel that when it comes to making policy decisions regarding pesticides in our State, the standard should be folks that have “been there and done that.” Practical experience is golden when it comes to this, and for this reason I oppose this bill. There is no place for emotion in these discussions.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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