

**Testimony**  
**Patrick Vaillancourt**  
**Owner, Northern Turf Management**  
**May 4th, 2021**

**Opposed to LD 1599**  
**“An Act To Establish A Maine Pesticide Sales and Use Registry”**

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 1599**

**“An Act To Establish A Maine Pesticide Sales and Use Registry”**

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.

This bill looks to place more unnecessary burden on the licensed applicator, not to mention also the Board of Pesticides Control who would have to try to enforce these measures. The Board does a great job, but is in no way equipped to handle what would be this flood of application data on a weekly basis. Not to mention, if an applicator decided to not submit such data as this bill proposes, who would enforce it?

One of the major issues with this bill is the requirement to report information on pesticide AI’s and amounts to be used prior to actually making the application. This goes directly against the main principles of IPM, which requires scouting and ID of any pests before deciding on control measures. Many times, there is no way to know the level of pest pressure without first assessing each site.

LD 1599 also looks to publish the personal information of applicators performing applications. How, in any way, does publishing personal information of someone who happens to be performing pesticide applications help to accomplish anything?

Finally, out of all pesticide applications that occur in Maine the large majority of them are done by unlicensed homeowners or shady contractors, with no regard for label directions, sensitive area setbacks, continuing education etc. While responsible applicators would simply get buried in more ridiculous paperwork, the real misuse of pesticides would continue to go unchecked.

For these reasons, I encourage the committee to vote "ought not to pass" on LD 1599.

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

Patrick Vaillancourt  
Northern Turf Management  
820 Caribou Rd.  
Cyr Plantation, ME 04785  
[northernturf@live.com](mailto:northernturf@live.com)  
207-551-1449