



**Maine Unitarian Universalist
State Advocacy Network**
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Testimony in Support of LD 2013 – An Act Relating to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl
Substances Contamination in the State

Senator Dill, Representative O’Neil and members of the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

My name is Lynn Ellis and I live in Brunswick. I speak today in support of LD2013 - - An Act Relating to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination in the State

I am here to speak on behalf of the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network. MUUSAN links Maine’s 25 Unitarian Universalist congregations in active legislative ministry. Our faith tradition is dedicated to justice, equity, and compassion in all human relations. Representing UU churches across the state in addressing issues of public health, racial & native justice, oppression and climate action, UUs have influenced public policy and raised awareness for decades.

Today, I ask this committee to address the problematic issue of PFAS contamination on many Maine farms. This pollution is causing farmers to suspend using their fields for growing vegetables and severely compromising their livelihoods. In addition, their health and that of their families is also impacted as early testing shows abnormally high levels of these chemicals in their bodies.

As someone who suffers from Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, I depend on farmers ‘ healthy soil to grow uncontaminated food in order not to suffer health consequences. I, along with so many others appreciate the dedication and effort it takes to produce healthy food. PFAS studies by environmental agencies are indicating a serious problem with most of the packaging in products we buy every day as well as in the air we breathe and the clothes we wear.

Now contaminated sludge has been found to pollute the soil of unsuspecting farmers. They do not deserve to go out of business because of the State’s historic sludge policy. Maine depends on our farmers and we owe it to them to address this problem immediately. This is our future and our children’s future.

Please vote OTP on this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,
Lynn Ellis