

Michael Mosley  
Waterville  
LD 2013

To the Honorable Members of the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry,

My name is Michael Isreal Mosley, I am the Executive Director of the Maine Parent Advocacy Network and today I am submitting testimony in favor of LD 2013 on behalf of our organization.

This is a serious issue that impacts our neighbors and community. Our members have spent time with their families on the farms impacted by these contaminants. They've had to back out of home purchases because of these contaminants. They're seeing their neighbors and friends lose their farms and livelihoods over these contaminants.

Our neighbors will never be able to grow on their land again. They cannot use the wells on their property. They have to have water trucked to their homes or have complex filtration systems installed that cost thousands of dollars. Some can't even keep their animals on their land because they cannot graze on the contaminated grass.

Our neighbors were lied to. They were told that what they were using on their land was completely safe. It was not. Now all of our collective lands and water have been contaminated because of it. Our neighbors have been poisoned because of it. And those who gave our neighbors those assurances take no responsibility for their part in this outcome. Worse still, there is no unemployment or other help for them if this bill does not pass.

We at MPAN believe in two things above all else: that parents must use their voice in service to their community and that nobody will take care of our communities unless we ourselves are the ones to do it. These farmers and landowners are our friends and neighbors.

Right now the duty and capacity to care for them rests in your hands. Whether or not they are cared for depends on your votes. We are asking you to use those votes to do your part in helping them by voting Ought To Pass and bringing this bill to the floor for a full vote, so that our communities can get the support and the resources necessary to monitor and treat this issue.

Thank you,

The Parents of MPAN