

Allison Smith
Knox
LD 2013

To: Agriculture Conservation and Forestry Committee
From: Allison Smith, 69 Kenney Rd, Knox, ME 04986.
Re: Support for LD 2013 An Act Relating to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination in the State

My name is Allison Smith and I live in Knox. I am testifying in support of LD 2013.

There are many farms in my community who have discovered that their land and/or water is dangerously contaminated with PFAS chemicals. In addition to my concerns about the health impacts of all this contamination on their families and all of us who have been living and consuming foods from these lands, I am extremely worried about the economic impacts this is having on these families. Many of them have dedicated their lives to developing their skills as farmers and have invested everything they have into their farms. They have no other careers to fall back on, no resources left to invest in clean land or safe homes, many with no health insurance to cover the health monitoring they will need and possibly treatment for the many health conditions that can be caused by the level of exposure they have endured. I also believe we need to get to work immediately to begin to study how to remediate the contaminated lands. Please do the right thing by these families whose health and livelihoods have been so threatened by this. The state is partially responsible for this contamination, and needs to step up to make it right.

Thank you for your time in reading my testimony. Please vote to support LD 2013.