



**Colvard & Company LLC  
10 Buttermilk Rd  
Ellsworth ME, 04605**

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Carter light. I am the owner of Colvard & Company LLC (Colvard Sausages) located in Ellsworth. We are a small CIS licensed, fresh sausage producer under the Maine Meat and Poultry Inspection Program. Currently, FSIS inspectors are on site 4 days a week (Monday through Thursday).

I am writing this testimony in support of bill LD 1916. In the almost 3 years that Colvard Sausages has been under inspection there have been multiple occasions when we have not been able to produce product due to the lack of an Inspector. This has mostly happened on Snow Days, when the Inspectors do not work.

Without an Inspector present, we are not allowed to handle any products. Our employees cannot enter facility and cannot work. We cannot pay our employees when we are unable to produce our products.

Additionally, when production is lost our deliveries are delayed or cancelled. Limiting our production means we cannot produce enough product to supply all our customers. Sometimes we must cancel the deliveries or limit the amount of product we are selling.

Maine state government has identified increased local meat production and processing as being strategically important to the economic welfare of the State, and the reliable availability of meat inspectors is a significant obstacle to achieving it. I would urge the Legislature to pass LD 1916. This bill not only effects our business, but the ability for our workers to make a steady living and our customers to receive our products.

Thank you for your consideration.

Carter Light  
Owner, Colvard & Company LLC.