



Maine Forest Products Council

The voice of Maine's forest economy

Companies represented on the MFPC Board

American Forest Mgmt.
Baskahegan Co.
BBC Lands LLC
Bradbury Forest Mgmt.
Columbia Forest Prod.
Cross Insurance
Family Forestry
Farm Credit East
Fontaine Inc.
H.C. Haynes
Huber Resources
Innovative Natural
Resource Solutions
J.D. Irving
Katahdin Forest Mgmt.
Key Bank
LandVest Inc.
Limington Lumber
Louisiana Pacific
Maibec Logging
ND Paper
Nicols Brothers
Pingree Associates
Pixelle Specialty Sol.
Pleasant River Lumber
Prentiss & Carlisle
ReEnergy
Richard Wing & Son
Robbins Lumber
Sappi North America
Southern Maine Forestry
Stead Timberlands
TD Bank
Timber Resource Group
Timberstate G.
Wadsworth Woodlands
Wagner Forest Mgt.
Weyerhaeuser

Testimony in Support of LD 226 An Act to Limit the Use of Hydrofluorocarbons to Fight Climate Change

Patrick J. Strauch, Executive Director

March 15, 2021

Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and distinguished members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Patrick Strauch and I reside in Exeter, Maine. I'm speaking to you as the director of the Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC). Since 1961, MFPC has represented the broad spectrum of our state's diverse forest product companies.

As a member of the Governor's Climate Change Council, on behalf of MFPC I support the amended language to be presented to the committee today that was a product of discussions on LD 2112 in the 129th legislative session.

To date, Maine's mills and suppliers are following suggested phase-out dates and upgrades for hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) replacements laid out in the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,¹ ratified by the United States in 1988 and the Kigali amendment.²

We understand this legislation accelerates the timeline for replacing HFCs and are supportive. The amendment recognizes that organizations will be able to service their current appliance throughout its asset life cycle. All manufacturers will build **NEW** equipment UL listed³ and with national building code standards. Existing equipment that is properly maintained will be able to run its life cycle with the refrigerants **intended** and **approved** to be in the machine.

Our industry is committed to reducing non-CO2 emissions and Maine needs realistic, practical policies that can be implemented without weakening our manufacturing economy. LD 226 as amended achieves these objectives.

¹ <https://www.state.gov/key-topics-office-of-environmental-quality-and-transboundary-issues/the-montreal-protocol-on-substances-that-deplete-the-ozone-layer/>

² <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-layer-protection/recent-international-developments-under-montreal-protocol>

³ [Underwriter Laboratories, https://marks.ul.com/about/ul-listing-and-classification-marks/promotion-and-advertising-guidelines/specific-guidelines-and-rules/#:~:text=UL%20Listing%20means%20that%20UL,nationally%20recognized%20Standards%20for%20Safety.](https://marks.ul.com/about/ul-listing-and-classification-marks/promotion-and-advertising-guidelines/specific-guidelines-and-rules/#:~:text=UL%20Listing%20means%20that%20UL,nationally%20recognized%20Standards%20for%20Safety.)