

May 3, 2021

Good morning Senator Brenner, Representative Tucker, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. My name is Rebecca Boulos. I am a resident of South Portland and writing to express my support for Representative Morales' amendment to LD 1532, "An Act To Protect Maine's Air Quality by Strengthening Requirements for Air Emissions Licensing."

The provisions in this amendment reflect recommendations of the [South Portland Clean Air Advisory Committee \(CAAC\)](#). [Here is the Committee's final report for your reference and review](#). I served as a member of the CAAC, but the views in this testimony are my own. I do not speak on behalf of the Committee.

Specifically, I want to comment on my support of the:

1. Use of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Human Exposure Model (HEM3/HEM4), which is a tool that estimates the potential human health impacts from an individual facility and from cumulative impacts.
2. Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) consideration of the combined collective impacts of multiple emitting facilities near neighborhoods. Currently, this is not taken in consideration through DEP's permitting process.
3. Consideration of proximity of homes when issuing permits as well as setting emissions limits that restrict the potential for additional cancers to 1 in 100,000 people.

As a public health professional, I support the recommendations of the CAAC, and believe this amendment advances the evidence-based and robust work of that Committee. This amendment protects public health, promotes environmental justice, and supports safe communities in Maine. I respectfully request the committee vote in favor of adopting Representative Morales' amendment to LD 1532. Thank you for your consideration.