

Francis M. Weld

May 8, 2021

To: The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
From: Francis M. Weld
Re: Testimony in Support of An Act to Support and Improve Municipal Recycling Programs and Save Taxpayer Money, LD 1541

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote “ought to pass” on LD 1541.

The petroleum industry threatens to bury the world in plastic. The hazards of plastic pollution are well documented. Microplastics are causing havoc in our oceans and appearing even at our highest mountaintops.

Rather than recognize the horrors that they are directly responsible for, the petroleum industry continues to produce ever more of the material at enormous cost to society and the environment.

LD 1541 provides a solid start to stemming the flood of plastics by compelling manufacturers to participate in its handling. The bill is based on programs that have been proven elsewhere. It places no undue burden on participants, while creating incentives, one would hope, for industry to change its behavior.

I urge you to support this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis M. Weld