

April 12, 2023

Honorable Stacy Brenner
Chair, Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Cross, Building Room 216
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Support - LD 1214/ SP 495 *An Act to Clarify the Laws Related to PFAS Contamination*

Dear Chair Brenner and Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

MEMA, The Vehicle Suppliers Association, respectfully requests your support of LD 1214/SP 495. The legislation would provide clarification to Public Law 2021 chapter 477 which requires reporting of products with intentionally added PFAS and would ban products with intentionally added PFAS as of January 1st 2023, unless DEP determines that the use of PFAS in the product is an unavoidable use.

MEMA recognizes Maine's interest in managing PFAS contamination to protect the health of the state's citizens and the environment. LD 1214/SP 495 furthers this goal by making the necessary changes to definitions in current law that would address concerns with certain PFAS chemistries while allowing critically important uses and benefits of these chemistries.

LD 1214/ SP 495 would also enable greater compliance with the law by providing a one year reporting extension on products that contain intentionally added PFAS. Although the reporting requirement was scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 2023, the DEP granted thousands of manufacturers an extension in recognition of the complications related to reporting including delays in rulemaking, difficulty in obtaining and protecting confidential business information protected by intellectual property laws, disruptions in the global supply chain, and lack of laboratory testing capacity. A one-year extension of the reporting requirement date would allow manufacturers and the DEP to work through these issues.

Lastly, the proposed bill removes the ban on any products with PFAS by January 1, 2030, unless DEP identifies it as an unavoidable use. This provision is unnecessary and duplicative given that the law states DEP can by rule identify products or categories of products that cannot be sold or distributed.

MEMA encourages the support of LD 1214/ SP 495 as a sensible solution to protect health and the environment while providing regulatory clarification and certainty to impacted companies.

Sincerely,



Alex Boesenberg
Vice President of Regulatory Affairs
MEMA, The Vehicle Suppliers Association | mema.org
aboesenberg@mema.org

Alex Boesenberg
MEMA
LD 1214

April 21, 2023

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Cross, Building Room 216 100 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

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