



Center for the  
Polyurethanes Industry

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

April 25, 2023

**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,

ACC's Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI) respectfully requests your support of LD 1214/SP 495 that 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2030, unless DEP determines that the use of PFAS in the product is an unavoidable use.

CPI 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.

Particularly, LD 1214/SP 495 would allow the continued use of HFO blowing agents that are used in a variety of polyurethane applications, including spray polyurethane foam. HFO blowing agents have an ultra-low global warming potential and are nontoxic, non-bioaccumulative, and are designed to rapidly break down in the environment. These blowing agents are used to create insulating and air sealing products that can help significantly reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with heating and cooling residential and commercial buildings. Additionally, HFO blowing agents contribute to achieving state, federal, and international climate goals by providing an alternative to high-GWP blowing agents.

LD 1214/ SP 495 would also enable greater compliance with the law by providing companies with a one-year extension of the deadline for reporting of products containing 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.

As you know, nearly every sector of the economy, including aerospace, autos, alternative energy, healthcare, building and construction, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and agriculture, relies on PFAS chemistries for the reliable and safe function of a variety of products.

CPI 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Choiniere', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ian Choiniere  
Director, Product Advocacy  
American Chemistry Council  
Center for the Polyurethanes Industry