

Testimony of the Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association**By
Patricia Hanz****LD 1214/ SP 495, An Act to Clarify the Laws Related to PFAS Contamination****Public Hearing of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,
Maine State Legislature****April 26, 2023**

Chair Brenner and Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

I write you today on behalf of the Truck & Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA) respectfully requesting your support of LD 1214/SP 495. EMA represents the world's leading manufacturers of commercial vehicles and on- and off- road engines used in several applications, including trucks, buses, construction and farm equipment, locomotives, marine vessels, lawn and garden equipment and stationary generators. EMA believes that LD 1214/SP 495 will clarify Public Law 2021 chapter 477 which requires reporting of products with intentionally added PFAS as of January 1st, 2023 and would ban products with intentionally added PFAS as of January 1st 2030, unless DEP determines that the use of PFAS in the product is an unavoidable use.

EMA 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 reporting component of the law by providing companies a one year extension of the reporting deadline for products containing intentionally added PFAS. Although the reporting requirement was scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 2023, the DEP has 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.

EMA 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments. I would be happy to answer any questions following the hearing at: phanz@emamail.org (312) 929-1979.