



Maine Forest Products Council

The voice of Maine's forest economy

Testimony in Support of LD 1214

“An Act to Clarify the Laws to Combat Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination”

April 26, 2023

Patrick Strauch, Executive Director

Good afternoon Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich and members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. I am Patrick Strauch from Exeter, Maine, and the Executive Director of the Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC). I am submitting testimony today on behalf of the Maine Forest Products Council in support of LD 1214, “An Act to Clarify the Laws to Combat Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination.”

As drafted, LD 1214 would make improvements to Maine’s first-in-the-nation 2021 PFAS in products law to ensure that those who do business in Maine can comply. With no model to look to, it isn’t surprising that Maine’s law has had some unintended consequences that need to be addressed. This new law is a major undertaking with impacts on every single business that sells products or goods in Maine. Compliance requires substantial time and resources and considering that the formal rulemaking process is just beginning at Maine DEP, it is not practicable to expect companies to be able to comply with a law in the absence of finalized rules and guidelines on how to do so.

LD 1214 is necessary because it would narrow the scope of PFAS to match up with testing capabilities, protect confidential business information, push the effective date out one year to allow time for the rulemaking process and more.

If Maine is going to lead on this issue, it is critical that we get the details right, or it’s going to be Maine’s businesses and manufacturers who will bear the brunt of this new law. For that reason, we urge your support of LD 1214. Thank you for your consideration.

Companies represented on the MFPC Board

A & A Brochu Logging
American Forest Mgmt.
Baskahegan Co.
BBC Land, LLC
Columbia Forest Prod.
Cross Insurance
Family Forestry
Farm Credit East
Fontaine Inc.
H.C. Haynes
Huber Resources
INRS
J.D. Irving
Katahdin Forest Mgmt.
Key Bank
Kennebec Lumber
LandVest Inc.
Louisiana Pacific
Maibec Logging
ND Paper
Nicols Brothers
Pingree Associates
Prentiss & Carlisle
ReEnergy
Richard Wing & Son
Robbins Lumber
Sappi North America
Southern Maine Forestry
Stead Timberlands
St. Croix Tissue
St. Croix Chipping
TD Bank
Timber Resource Group
Timberstate G.
Wadsworth Woodlands
Wagner Forest Mgt.
Weyerhaeuser
Woodland Pulp