

May 22, 2021

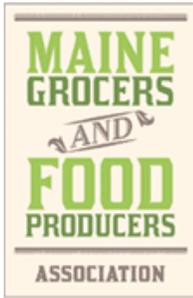
RE: Oppose and Amend LD 1503

Dear Maine Legislator,

We are writing to respectfully oppose and request amendments to LD 1503 related to PFAS reporting requirements and product bans. **The legislation as written could eventually ban thousands of products from sale and transport of those products into the state.** It would be the broadest ban on products containing PFAS in the nation and would have far reaching negative consequences on nearly every sector of the economy including aerospace, autos, alternative energy, healthcare, building and construction, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and agriculture. No other state has even considered such an extreme and unworkable approach to this broad and important class of chemistry.

Today's PFAS are essential to modern life and an important enabling technology. These chemistries provide products with strength, durability, stability, and resilience. **These properties are critical to the reliable and safe function of a broad range of products that are important for industry and consumers.** They play a vital role in everything from designing automobiles with lower emissions and improved safety, reliability and fuel-efficiency to manufacturing semiconductors, solar panels and high performance electronics. Multiple other industries depend on high-performance PFAS including aerospace, alternative energy (solar, wind), healthcare, building and construction, electronics, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, and outdoor apparel and equipment, among other industries.

In this regard, the legislation would undermine effective product design, and in some cases, even overall product safety and efficacy for a broad range of products - including applications that are important for public safety and public health. One critical example and timely example, this bill would currently restrict critical materials that are essential to the COVID vaccine distribution and COVID testing, as well as the medical equipment used by healthcare providers that are on the front-line of fighting the COVID pandemic.



This bill also would adversely impact critical uses of this technology that are important for our society's broader sustainability objectives, including support for alternative energy and greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

We thank you for your consideration and urge you to oppose and amend LD 1503.

Sincerely,
Maine Grocers and Food Producers Association
American Chemistry Council
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers
Consumer Technology Association
Flexible Packaging Association
Household & Commercial Products Association