

To: Legislative Policy Committee

From: Amanda Campbell, Legislative Advocate
Rebecca Lambert, Municipal Issues Specialist

Date: September 12, 2024

RE: LPC Working Group on PFAS – Update

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Meeting #1 – September 12, 2024

Members – Roberta Boczkiewicz, Castine; Bob Butler, Waldoboro; Andy Hart, Carmel; Richard LaBelle, Norridgewock; Marc Meyers, Bath

The PFAS working group met to discuss municipal issues regarding PFAS contamination.

Topics of discussion included:

- Potential legislative liability exemptions for municipal governments;
- Ongoing funding to the Uncontrolled Hazardous Substance Site fund;
- Potential legislative language to require DEP to prove negligence before demanding reimbursement for remediation to an impacted municipality;
- Requiring fire departments to replace their PFAS firefighting foam;
- Landfills and the role they play in PFAS exposure;
- Clarification for why the 2021 exemptions were instituted;
- Immunity carve-outs for negligence before XXX time, after which liability is in place;
- Potential requirements to replace firefighter turnout gear.

The group will meet again at the beginning of October and will invite Nick Hodgkins from DEP to attend and answer department-related, and other PFAS, questions.

Thanks to the working group members for meaningful and concise discussion.