



**Testimony in Opposition to
LD 827, An Act to Allow the Sale of Polymer-coated Cookware That Is Authorized for Food
Contact by the United States Food and Drug Administration**

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Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Vanessa Berry. I am the Sustainable Maine Program Manager for the Natural Resources Council of Maine. I appreciate this opportunity to testify in opposition to LD 827.

Extensive research confirms that PFAS exposure poses significant health risks, including increased cancer rates. In response to the science, Maine has taken decisive action by enacting the PFAS Products Law, which prohibits many PFAS-containing products, including cookware, to protect consumers from harm. Any proposal that weakens this law—especially one allowing cookware to contain PFAS—would be a step backward.

The most effective way to safeguard public health is to prevent PFAS use at the source. LD 827 does not affect an individual's right to continue using cookware they already own, but it would increase exposure to PFAS by future consumers through PFAS-containing cookware when safer alternatives are readily available.

We urge the Committee to uphold the integrity of Maine's PFAS Products Law and vote "**Ought Not to Pass**" on LD 827. Thank you for your dedication to protecting the health and safety of Maine residents.