

## **Defend Our Health Action Endorses a Slate of Environmental Health Champions**

*Portland, Maine* – Today, Defend Our Health Action released a list of endorsements for candidates running for the state House and state Senate in Maine. The endorsed candidates include current environmental health champions, as well as first-time candidates for office. This is the first year that Defend Our Health Action has endorsed candidates for public office.

In the past two years Maine has become a leader in managing the PFAS crisis, passing first in the nation bills to protect the health and environment of all Mainers. But there is much more work to be done. To continue that work, we need elected officials that will fight to protect the health and environment of all Mainers from exposure to toxic chemicals.

“Maine has been a leader when it comes to protecting its citizens from exposure to toxic chemicals like PFAS and arsenic,” said Sarah Woodbury, Director of Advocacy at Defend Our Health. We have accomplished amazing things in the past few years thanks to the bipartisan support of our friends in the legislature. But we aren’t done. We need to continue to work to address the PFAS crisis, to protect access to safe food and drinking water, and to provide resources to impacted communities. To do that, we need strong environmental public health champions. That is why we are proud to endorse this broad slate of bipartisan candidates who we believe will advocate for good public policy and work hard to protect public health and the environment for all Mainers.”

### **Statements from Endorsed Candidates**

“I’m honored to have the endorsement of Defend Our Health. As a firefighter for over 33 years, I know how important it is to have houses, businesses, and communities that are free of dangerous toxins and PFAS chemicals. In the Maine Legislature, I would work to ban the use of PFAS chemicals to keep our citizens safe. Thank you for your support!” – Ralph Cammack, candidate for Senate district 10

“I am proud to have received the endorsement from Defend Our Health Action. We must all work together to protect the health and environment of all Mainers. Last session I worked with Defend Our Health and a bipartisan group of legislators to accomplish great things for the people of Maine, including passing legislation to protect our firefighters from toxic PFAS exposure, passing first in the nation legislation to reduce PFAS exposure and require large corporations to disclose which of their products contain toxic PFAS, and supporting funding to help PFAS impacted communities. I look forward to continuing this work with Defend Our Health Action and my colleagues in the Senate.” – Senator Rick Bennett, candidate for Senate district 18

“It has been essential to have strong advocates for public health and the planet in the halls of the state house when we are working on policy to effect change on regulatory processes. Moneyed interests always arrive with the loudest voices. Giving agency to Maine’s citizens through advocacy makes the difference. I am thrilled to have the endorsement of Defend our Health and look forward to continued collaboration.” – Senator Stacy Brenner, candidate for Senate district 30

“I’m so pleased to be endorsed by Defend Our Health. The work we have been able to do together in the legislature protecting the health of all Mainers, particularly when it comes to

PFAS contamination, has been so meaningful. I look forward to continuing this vital work to keep our children, water, and land healthy now and into the future.” – Rep. Bill Pluecker, candidate for House district 44

"Protecting the health and environment of all Mainers is tough but important work. I believe we must all work together, listen to those we may disagree with, have those difficult conversations and do our best to come up with science-based solutions that benefit All Mainers. Defend Our Health Action has shown that they are willing to come to the table, have those hard conversations, and work with everyone to try to find those solutions. That is why I am proud to be endorsed by Defend Our Health Action and am looking forward to joining them in the work ahead." – Les Fossel, candidate for House district 47

“The importance of protecting our communities’ food, water, and health should be something we can all agree. I’m grateful to Defend our Health for the work that they’ve done on pressing issues from PFAS to arsenic in drinking water, and I’m proud to receive their endorsement in this campaign.” – Sally Cluchey, candidate for House district 52

“I am pleased to have the endorsement of Defend Our Health. They will be a strong ally in our fight against PFAS and for a healthier environment.” – Robert Sezek, candidate for House district 67

“It is truly an honor to be recognized as a legislative leader by Defend Our Health, and to help celebrate their 20 years of advocacy for a toxic free environment. This organization has been a steadfast and invaluable partner for the work we in the Legislature have undertaken to protect Mainers from harmful toxics, most notably, PFAS, known as “forever chemicals”. As a state representative, it is a top priority for me to assure that we find healthier alternatives that won’t harm our kids or our environment. I look forward to continuing this important work with Defend Our Health and other environmental partners.” – Rep. Lori Gramlich, candidate for House district 131

### ***Senate Candidates***

Troy Jackson	Senate District 1
Shawn G Bean	Senate District 3
Joseph Baldacci	Senate District 9
Mike Tipping	Senate District 8
Ralph Cammack	Senate District 10
Anne "Pinny" Beebe-Center	Senate District 12
Cameron Reny	Senate District 13
Craig Hickman	Senate District 14
Rick Bennett	Senate District 18
Eloise Vitelli	Senate District 24
Ben Chipman	Senate District 28
Anne Carney	Senate District 29
Stacy Brenner	Senate District 30
Donna Bailey	Senate District 31
Henry Ingwersen	Senate District 32
Kendra Williams	Senate District 33

### ***House Candidates***

Roy D. Gott	House District 12
Amy Roeder	House District 23

Laurie Osher	House District 25
Peter Crockett	House District 27
Frank Roma	House District 34
Kristen Card	House District 36
Vicki Doudera	House District 41
Bill Pluecker	House District 44
Clint Collamore	House District 45
Les Fossel	House District 47
Holly Stover	House District 48
Rebecca Jauch	House District 51
Sally Cluchey	House District 52
Daniel Shagoury	House District 55
Tavis Hasenfus	House District 57
Amy Davidoff	House District 61
Robert Sezak	House District 67
Allison Perkins	House District 71
Jessica Fay	House District 86
Mary-Beth Taylor	House District 87
Kristen Cloutier	House District 94
Michel A. Lajoie	House District 96
Orion Breen	House District 98
Cheryl Golek	House District 99
Dan Ankeles	House District 100
Poppy Arford	House District 101
Melanie Sachs	House District 102
Art Bell	House District 103
Dana Reed	House District 106
Jim Boyle	House District 109
Amy Kuhn	House District 111
Grayson Lookner	House District 113
Rachel Talbot Ross	House District 118
Deqa Dhalac	House District 120
Rebecca Millett	House District 123
Kelly Noonan Murphy	House District 125
Maggie O'Neil	House District 129
Lynne H. Copeland	House District 130
Lori K Gramlich	House District 131
Marc Malon	House District 133
Anne-Marie Mastraccio	House District 142
Michele Meyer	House District 150