

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Taylor Moore, tmoore@defendourhealthaction.org, (207) 699-5798

Defend Our Health Action Celebrates Election Victories of First-Ever Endorsed Candidates

Victories include Governor Mills and all of the organization's incumbent environmental health champions leading the fight against PFAS contamination in Maine

Portland, Maine – Defend Our Health Action is proud to announce that in its first year of [endorsing candidates](#) for public office, 47 candidates, including Governor Mills, won their election. In the past two years, Maine has become a leader in the fight against PFAS 'forever chemicals,' passing first-in-the-nation bills and setting a precedent for other states to recognize toxics as a legislative priority.

“Monday’s election results serve as a strong indication that Mainers care about PFAS and environmental health issues across the board,” said **Sarah Woodbury, Director of Advocacy at Defend Our Health**. “As we continue to build out our legislative priorities going into this upcoming session, we are thrilled to know that we have both incumbents and first-time elected officials in the Governor’s office and both the House and Senate who will be working alongside us and leading us as we continue the fight for environmental health and justice in Maine.”

Of the 47 candidates who won their elections, 25 of them received a 100% pro environmental health record from Defend Our Health Action. Past victories working alongside many of these incumbent candidates include:

- Governor Mills signing into law LD 1503, a first-in-the-world bill to phase out the use of toxic PFAS in products
- LD 206, with Rep. Rebecca Millett (D-Cape Elizabeth) and Rep. Michele Meyer (D-Eliot), which protects Maine children by setting a more health protective maximum level allowed for lead in school drinking water
- LD 1570, sponsored by Rep. Lori Gramlich (D-Old Orchard Beach), which requires the Maine CDC to do outreach to low-income residential well owners and help them get their wells tested for free
- LD 1911, sponsored by Rep. Bill Pluecker (I-Warren), which bans the spreading of PFAS-Contaminated sludge on farmland, protecting Maine’s farmland for future generations

The people of Maine sent a clear message on Tuesday that they want policy makers who will work to protect the health and environment of all Mainers. Defend Our Health Action will continue to work with elected officials in the coming year to implement equitable policies to protect all Mainers from toxic chemicals.

###

As the action partner of Defend Our Health, [Defend Our Health Action](#) is working to prevent harm to Maine families from toxic chemicals in everyday life. That means acting now on the science linking chemical exposure to chronic diseases, disabilities and early death. And protecting the health of the most vulnerable among us, including pregnant women and children by ensuring that our elected leaders will fight to fix our broken chemical safety system.