



Karolinska Institutet
Department of Neuroscience
Experimental Dermatology Unit

Stockholm, February 11, 2010

Senator Joseph Brannigan, Chair
Representative Anne Perry, Chair
Honorable Members of the Health and Human Services Committee
Maine Legislature
Attention: Jan L. Clark, Health and Human Services Committee
100 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115 (USA)

Dear Senator Brannigan, Representative Perry, and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

As one of the scientists in the area of health effects of electromagnetic fields, I am writing to encourage members of the Maine Health and Human Services Committee to vote in favor of the Children's Wireless Protection Act (LD 1706).

At the Karolinska Institute, we have for many years observed very serious biological changes from exposure to microwave radiation and extremely low-frequency magnetic fields of the kind emitted by cell phones. These include increased risks for cancer, neurological diseases, impairments to immune function, and neurological function (cognition, behaviour, performance, mood status, disruption of sleep, increased risk for auto collisions, etc.). We also know that this kind of radiation impacts DNA, leading to possible mutations and cancer development, as well as affecting fertility and reproduction, causing a dramatic decline in sperm count.

Personally, I believe it was a terrible oversight to not require pre-market health testing of these technologies. But now that wireless communications devices are pervasive in society, the prudent step is to warn citizens of their risks so that health conscious citizens may take precautionary measures. We especially need to protect children, pregnant women and fetuses, as well as fertile men.

Congratulations to the state of Maine for considering this important legislation. I encourage all members of the Health and Human Services Committee to vote in favor of the Children's Wireless Protection Act.

Sincerely yours,

Olle Johansson, PhD, associate professor (Karolinska Institute), professor (The Royal Institute of Technology)

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