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I am deeply concerned with the direction of this bill to limit the use of natural gas in our homes as well as businesses.

As some of you on this committee (although I wonder) must be aware that Maine is a cold climate State. Often that translates to a very dangerously cold climate State.

For those of you on this committee who are unaware of this fact natural gas is exceptionally clean for a fossil fuel. Much cleaner than oil which is now much less harmful to the environment due to technology advancements. The alternatives to natural gas and fossil fuels of wind and solar are not only extremely harmful to their surrounding environment, detrimental to the local inhabitants (wildlife) but are extremely undependable especially in times of severe weather events.

This is not a time to follow the political agenda of the climate change cult or policies of other warmer climate States. At times of unexpected occasional severe weather events, heating one's home while having multiple energy sources is a matter of life and death for many. This bill if forwarded will lead to a serious impact on many Mainers. This is not about following an agenda or collecting virtue points. It's a time to do your job and consider the overall safety and well being of every citizen in our Maine. It's time to remove the blinders of party politics.

I strongly urge that this proposed bill not advance beyond this committee. To be very clear this bill demands a resounding OUGHT NOT TO PASS.