

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written remarks on LD 2266.

I am a full time Maine resident and a registered voter. I urge you to vote "ought not to pass" on LD 2266.

I am a strong supporter of clean energy, including solar and wind energy. But these energy sources must be developed in an environmentally responsible manner. What is the point of addressing the climate crisis if we destroy our environment in the process?

The administration has had ample time to determine what laws, rules and regulations are implicated in the development of off-shore wind, including both State and Federal laws and implementing regulations. If they failed to do their due diligence, they should not get a pass on complying with long-established requirements to protect the environment. Ignorance of the law is no excuse, especially not from those who have ample resources to determine what the laws are, and whose job it is to make sure laws and regulations are fairly and equitably implemented.

If enacted, this bill sets a very dangerous precedent. Any future legislature or administration with a project that arguably addresses the climate crisis could use this bill as a model to skate around environmental protection laws.

The fact that this disastrous bill is being pushed through at breakneck speed -- introduced on March 14, a hearing 4 days later, with a weekend in between -- for a decade-long project, that alone should be enough to raise suspicions.

Maine's off-shore wind project is important -- and it's important that we do it right. I urge you to vote "ought not to pass" on LD 2266.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Sandra Scholar, Esq.  
Greenville Junction, Maine

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