

Geoffrey Scott
Camden
LD 359

Senator Bickford, Senator Bradstreet, Senator Cyrway, Senator Harrington, Representative Wadworth, and honorable members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee. I am Geoffrey Scott, Resident of Camden, Knox County. Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to oppose LD 359, An Act to Prohibit Net Energy Billing by Certain Customers.

My understanding is this bill is targeted at removing community solar as being part of net energy billing. If that is in fact the purpose of the bill, after long consideration, I must oppose it. Although community solar may seem to some to take advantage of a loophole in net energy billing, the end result is that the intention of net energy billing is still being served: to encourage homeowners to invest in renewable energy.

I don't know if owners of community solar are making lots of money, and maybe that's what the legislature is concerned about. I do know that Maine is doing well on the road of being supplied by 100% renewable energy. Thank you for helping us get there. One of the largest producers of hydro electricity in Maine is Brookfield Renewable. In their Jan 31, 2025 press release they reported "... another record year for operations." Seems that the growth of community solar is not affecting their profitability and I suspect that's true of all the other suppliers as well.