

Geoffrey Scott
Camden
LD 450

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, 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 450: An Act to Lower Electricity Costs by Repealing the Laws Governing Net Energy Billing

Electricity costs will not be lowered if we remove our current laws supporting net energy billing. The opportunity already exists to lower costs related to electricity by limiting the fees that our current producers charge. One of the largest producers of electricity in Maine, hydro electricity, is Brookfield Renewable. In their Jan 31, 2025 press release relating to 2024 revenue they reported "... another record year for operations." I was unable to find similar information about other producers supplying Maine (list from maine.gov). That list was CN Brown (ME), Provider Power (TX), Ambit (TX), Clearview (TX), Major Energy (TX), North American Power (TX), SmartEnergy (PA), Think Energy (CT), Town Square Energy (AZ), Xoom Energy (NJ). Interesting that of the 10 suppliers, only two are in Maine. Which means virtually all the profits from energy production are leaving the state.

On the other hand, if the legislature continues to support net energy billing, incentives will continue to produce energy here in Maine and profits will stay in Maine as well. And that energy would be renewable vs carbon based.

As a community member and a concerned citizen of the planet we need to encourage the use of renewable energy whenever we can. Taking away net energy billing does the exact opposite. Mainers understand how net energy billing makes the decision to put renewable energy into their lives more affordable. We all struggle with the initial investment, but with net energy billing we can see that in 10-15 years we should come out financially ahead. Take away net energy billing and you sabotage all the great work that's been done by the legislature to build a system that works to accomplish their goals.

Keeping net energy billing:

- Incentivizes citizens to move to renewable energy
- Reduces fossil fuel usage
- Reduces carbon emissions
- Helps mitigate climate change

Removing net energy billing:

- Improves the profits of energy producers, most of which are out of state.