Timothy Lyons Brownfield LD 450

Dear Members of the Augusta Legislature,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding LD450. While the bill proposes to remove what many refer to as the "solar tax" from our electricity bills, it does so by repealing net energy billing provisions. At first glance, removing the tax might seem like a win for ratepayers, since it would eliminate an additional charge that appears on everyone's bill—even those who do not opt for solar energy.

However, net energy billing is a critical mechanism that allows solar customers to receive credit for the energy they generate, effectively lowering their electricity costs. By dismantling this system, LD450 would remove a valuable incentive for solar adoption, which in turn could undermine our state's progress toward a more sustainable energy future.

I urge you to consider the broader implications of this repeal. Instead of eliminating the tax at the expense of net energy billing, policymakers should explore solutions that both alleviate undue costs on ratepayers and preserve the fair compensation system that encourages renewable energy investments.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Timothy Lyons