

Rachel Harlan
Bath, ME
LD 257

Testimony in Opposition to L.D. 32, An Act to Repeal the Laws Regarding Net Energy Billing, and L.D. 257, An Act to Eliminate the Practice of Net Energy Billing

Dear Committee Members, I am writing to ask you to reject proposed legislation to repeal Net Energy Billing.

I have invested approximately \$50,000 in solar, heat pumps, a back-up battery and insulation, even after receiving rebates and tax credits, for my 1851 house in Bath. I did this because I believe strongly that our future depends on reduced reliance on finite and pollution-producing fossil fuels. I do not regret my investment, I do however, think it is only fair that I am allowed the benefit afforded by net energy billing.

Given the high reliance in Maine on costly fossil fuels it only makes sense to continue a program in which the benefits out-weigh the costs as recently reported by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. If members of the committee and legislature have not had the opportunity to read the report, it can be found here:

<https://www.maine.gov/mpuc/sites/maine.gov/mpuc/files/inline-files/NEB-SEA%20Report%20-Final.pdf>

I see no sense in going backwards to inefficient technologies when we have the opportunity to encourage and support those that further the goals of self-sufficiency, cost-effectiveness and a flourishing environment. Goals which I hope are shared by members of the committee and legislature.

Thank you,
Rachel Harlan
Bath, Maine