

Robert Nelson
Newcastle
LD 359

Testimony in Opposition to
LD359 An Act to Prohibit Net Energy Billing by Certain Customers

Honorable Senator Lawrence, Honorable Representative Sachs, Distinguished
Members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Nelson, and I live in Newcastle. I'm testifying in opposition to LD
359 An Act to Prohibit Net Energy Billing by Certain Customers

As you know, LD 1986, enacted in 2023 directs the Maine Public Utilities
Commission to evaluate Net Energy Billing annually. As shown in the most recent
report, the benefits of Net Energy Billing exceed the costs. As can be seen in that
report, the benefits of Net Energy Billing are greatest when the energy production is
closest to its point of consumption primarily due to transmission and distribution
savings. That said, this proposed Act is too heavy handed in restricting Net Energy
Billing and prohibiting shared account and shared ownership systems.

LD 359 would also put at risk existing Net Energy Billing contracts. The idea that the
state would allow the electric utilities to renege on existing agreements would not be
fair to customers who have made investments based on existing Net Energy Billing
rules.