Ronald Davis Orono, Maine LD 257

Net energy billing is essential if private (home or small business owner) solar production is to be maintained and to expand. It is state policy to transition to renewable energy like solar, and net energy billing is an important part of that effort. For the past 12 years, I have had solar panels that produce the electricity I use in my home. I produce much more than I can use in summer and much less in winter. To avoid prohibitively expensive batteries for storing unused summer energy, I put it into the grid, receive credits for it, and take it back (use the credits) in winter. I pay the power company for this service (currently about \$22/month per meter in my area). Without this arrangement, I and thousands of other home solar producers in Maine couldn't afford to produce their solar energy, and Maine's transition to renewable energy would falter.