

Paul Steinhauer  
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LD 568

I support LD 568 “An Act to Modify the Process for Standard-offer Contracts with the Public Utilities Commission.”

As I understand it, this bill limits standard-offer electricity service provider contracts to 6 months and requires that if at the end of the contract the Public Utilities Commission rejects all bids for a new standard-offer service contract, the expiring contract continues until the commission accepts a bid for a new contract.

I recall a couple years ago; the price of natural gas (used to generate electricity) went down. We were locked into a one-year standard offer electricity supply (current practice). We didn't have the opportunity to take advantage of a lower rate. Give us the chance to do so!

Per the Portland Press Herald dated July 16 2023 Maine is the only state in New England where customers are locked into 'standard offer' prices for 12 months.” Why?

As energy consumers, we know the burden the high cost of our energy needs places on our budgets. Our electricity delivery and supply charges are high, and increasing constantly. With net energy billing fees plugged into our CMP bills, we're subsidizing Chinese solar panel manufacturers and out of state solar field installers, for very little return. When do we get a break?

Again, I support LD 568 “An Act to Modify the Process for Standard-offer Contracts with the Public Utilities Commission”, and it “ought to pass.”