



**MaineHealth Statement of Opposition to the  
Repeal of Existing Net Energy Billing Projects  
March 10, 2025**

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, I am Sarah Calder, Senior Government Affairs Director at MaineHealth, and I am writing to express our opposition to any legislation that repeals or affects existing Net Energy Billing projects.

MaineHealth is an integrated non-profit health care system that provides a continuum of health care services to communities throughout Maine and New Hampshire. Every day, our over 24,000 care team members support our vision of “Working Together so Our Communities are the Healthiest in America” by providing a range of services from primary and specialty physician services to a continuum of behavioral health care services, community and tertiary hospital care, home health care, a lab, and retail and specialty pharmacy services.

MaineHealth made long-term commitments under the Maine Net Energy Billing (NEB) program many years ago, in good faith reliance on the policy framework established in 2019. MaineHealth was further encouraged that our support of the NEB program was aligned with the State of Maine environmental sustainability goals to achieve carbon neutrality and to develop clean electricity. With that said, MaineHealth opposes recently proposed bills that would repeal the NEB program.

As the largest private employer in Maine, we feel a responsibility to support environmental sustainability that is aligned with vision of “Working Together so Our Communities are the Healthiest in America.” Our participation in the NEB program directly supports our nonprofit mission; the financial benefits of the program are directly contributed to our provision of health care services, and the environmental benefits of the program support our vision by contributing to a healthier environment for the communities that we serve.

The retroactive nature of the changes proposed by recently introduced legislation would undermine confidence in future state programs. Such uncertainty makes long-term planning difficult for large organizations, like MaineHealth. Uncertainty does not create an attractive environment for new industries to bring technological advancement and new jobs to our state. If these bills were to pass, it is our understanding that Maine would be the only state to retroactively change net-metering program rules so dramatically. Such action would set a concerning precedent for organizations to consider new or ongoing investments in Maine.

MaineHealth urges that existing NEB projects and participants be grandfathered so that they may continue to rely on the program structure in place when they made their commitments. Any revisions to the NEB framework should be focused on new projects not yet online as of December 31, 2024, allowing current participants to honor their original agreements and continue contributing to Maine's clean energy goals. Action to grandfather existing projects through the end of last year would message stability and create a foundation from which further evolution of the NEB program can be appropriately debated and agreed upon by the Legislature.

I respectfully ask you to vote against currently proposed legislation that repeals NEB. Thank you for your consideration.