



**Testimony of the Town of Millinocket in Support of LD 819, An Act Concerning the Status of Battery Storage Systems with Regard to the Business Equipment Tax Exemption
March 25, 2025**

Senator Grohoski, Representative Cloutier and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, I write to express the town of Millinocket's support of LD 819.

Under this proposal, battery storage systems with a capacity of 2MW or more would be ineligible for the Business Equipment Tax Exemption ("BETE") program. We do not want to see such storage systems eligible for tax exemption because to make them exempt would be to further erode our town's tax revenues.

We are just one of a number of towns and cities across the state where residents are struggling year after year to pay their property taxes. While costs and property tax continue to increase, the burden that must be shared among property owners in Millinocket is mostly made up of local residents.

The current state of the law is ambiguous. Any interpretation that allows for the BETE program to apply to battery storage systems over 2 MW will create a heavy burden on all municipalities and its taxpayers. This burden will be felt most of all by rural and small towns.

Our town supports LD 819 and we respectfully ask that you do as well. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Jamieson
Town Manager