



53 Baxter Boulevard, Suite 202 | Portland, ME 04101
Phone: 866-554-5380 | Fax: 207-775-5727 | TTY: 877-434-7598
aarp.org/me | me@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpmaine
facebook.com/aarpmaine | instagram.com/aarpme

April 2, 2025

Testimony in Support: LD 1080, An Act Prohibiting Public Utilities from Requiring Deposits Based Solely on a Residential Customer's Income

Greetings Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. My name is Alf Anderson, and I am an Associate State Director for Advocacy and Outreach for AARP Maine. AARP is a non-profit, non-partisan social mission organization with more than 200,000 members across the state. We work on a range of energy issues at the state level. The core principles we approach this work with include affordability, reliability, and accountability.

I'm here today to testify in support for LD 1080 which would eliminate the burdensome practice of requiring deposits for essential utilities based solely on a customer's income. AARP Maine supports this bill because, in our view, electric, natural gas, water, and telecommunications utility services are essential to health, safety, and economic welfare. These services must be affordable and reliable for all. Those who are living on low and moderate incomes are the ones who can least afford to pay deposits for these essential services. Requiring them to do so only further exacerbates the financial challenges they are facing, especially in this time of rising costs, including steeply rising utility costs.

We are pleased to see this bill brought forward and hope that you will vote Ought to Pass in order to prohibit deposits for essential residential utility services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our views on this important bill. If I can answer any questions or provide any further information, you can reach me at aanderson@aarp.org or 207.330.1147.

Alf Anderson
Associate State Director, Advocacy and Outreach
AARP Maine