



April 4, 2025

**RE: SUPPORT for LD 1158 An Act to Expand Appliance Energy and Water Standards**

Dear Chair Tepler, Vice-Chair Doudera, and Members of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee:

Please accept this testimony from the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (ASAP) in support of LD 1158. ASAP is a project of the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) and works to advance cost-effective appliance standards at the national and state level.

Our organization, along with ACEEE, published *States Go First*, a report outlining recommendations for state-level appliance efficiency standards.<sup>1</sup> We also publish and annually update state savings estimates for the adoption of efficiency standards. We would be happy to provide additional information about the products, standards, and analysis used to inform LD 1185 as requested.

In 2021, Maine adopted efficiency standards for 10 products to help residents and businesses save money on utility bills while also cutting harmful air pollutants, including carbon dioxide.<sup>2</sup> Today, LD 1158 seeks to expand the list of covered products to further increase the money saved and air pollutants avoided.

**FACTS ABOUT LD 1158:**

- **Very cost effective to buyers and users** –All of the proposed standards save money on utility bills for consumers and businesses purchasing the products.
- **Readily available** – Products and technologies meeting the standards are readily available today from multiple manufacturers.
- **Reduce strain on electric grid** – The standards help reduce demand on the electric grid, including during peak demand hours.

**LD 1158 WOULD SAVE MONEY, ENERGY, AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES**

The bill would set minimum energy or water efficiency standards for nine products. If adopted, ASAP estimates the standards could save Maine residents and businesses about \$3 million on utility bills in 2030.<sup>3</sup> As more and more efficient products are purchased, annual utility bill savings would grow, reaching \$9 million in 2040. In total, by 2050, the standards would save \$169 million on utility bills, money that stays in local communities and can be reinvested in the local economy.

The standards in LD 1158 are also estimated to save 298 gigawatt hours of electricity and 320,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050, or the equivalent of taking about 74,000 cars off the road for a year.

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<sup>1</sup> ASAP/ACEEE report: [States Go First: How States Can Save consumers Money, Reduce Energy and Water Waste, and Protect the Environment with New Appliance Standards](#).

<sup>2</sup> LD 940.

<sup>3</sup> See [2025 Maine Appliance Standards Savings Report](#) on the ASAP website or the report is copied below.



## **STATES IN THE REGION AND NATIONWIDE CONTINUE TO ADOPT STANDARDS**

In recent years, 12 other states have adopted efficiency standards like those found in LD 1158. This includes in the northeast, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island. Nationwide, Nevada, Colorado, New Jersey, Maryland, Washington, Oregon, California, and Hawaii have also adopted product efficiency standards. If efficiency standards are not adopted, the state could become the dumping ground for the less efficient products that can no longer be sold in these states, saddling consumers and businesses with higher utility bills.

## **EXISTING PRODUCTS NOT IMPACTED**

Additionally, products would not have to proactively be changed out because of HB 660. The bill only applies to new sales of new products. Consumers could continue to use their existing products as long as they wish. The bill just means that after the effective date it will be the more efficient products available for purchase. The bill also does not apply to the sales of used products.

## **COMPLIANCE DATE NEARLY TWO YEARS AWAY**

If adopted, the standards would go into effect on January 1, 2027. Distributors and retailers will have more than 18 months to sell noncompliant products before the standards take effect.

## **STANDARDS ARE A COST-EFFECTIVE WAY TO ACHIEVE STATE GOALS**

Adopting efficiency standards is a low-cost way for Maine to cut energy and water waste, reduce utility bills and reduce greenhouse gases – the latter helping the state meet Maine’s climate goals.

We would be happy to provide further information, answer questions, or provide technical assistance should the need arise.

Thank you,

Brian Fadie  
State Policy Manager  
Appliance Standards Awareness Project

## Appliance Standards Awareness Project

### 2025 State Appliance Standards Recommendations

#### Savings estimates for: **Maine**

	Potential annual savings in 2030						Potential annual savings in 2040					
	Electricity (GWh)	Natural gas (BBtu)	Water (million gallons)	NO <sub>x</sub> (tons)	SO <sub>2</sub> (tons)	CO <sub>2</sub> (thousand metric tons)	Electricity (GWh)	Natural gas (BBtu)	Water (million gallons)	NO <sub>x</sub> (tons)	SO <sub>2</sub> (tons)	CO <sub>2</sub> (thousand metric tons)
Commercial battery chargers	0.2	--	--	0.03	0.002	0.02	0.8	--	--	0.1	0.01	0.1
Commercial dishwashers	1.3	17	23	0.9	0.01	1.0	3.7	48	66	2.6	0.0	2.9
Commercial fryers	0.1	54	--	2.4	0.001	2.9	0.3	185	--	8.4	0.002	9.8
Commercial ovens	0.8	6	--	0.3	0.01	0.4	2.6	19	--	1.2	0.02	1.2
Commercial steam cookers	0.2	2	6	0.1	0.002	0.1	0.8	8	21	0.5	0.01	0.5
Gas fireplaces	--	12	--	0.6	--	0.6	--	47	--	2.1	--	2.5
Residential ventilating fans	0.4	--	--	0.05	0.003	0.03	1.6	--	--	0.2	0.01	0.1
Server power supplies	3.8	--	--	0.4	0.03	0.3	5.4	--	--	0.6	0.05	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>18</b>

Assuming a compliance date of 2027 for all the recommended standards. While we are recommending the adoption of state-level standards for water softeners, we have not estimated savings for these products due to insufficient data on the current market.

#### Savings estimates for: **Maine**

	Potential annual utility bill savings (million 2023\$)		Net present value savings (million 2023\$)	Payback period (years)
	In 2030	In 2040		
Commercial battery chargers	0.02	0.1	0.6	2.9
Commercial dishwashers	0.9	2.8	25.2	0.7
Commercial fryers	0.8	2.8	21.6	1.7
Commercial ovens	0.2	0.7	3.7	4.0
Commercial steam cookers	0.2	0.7	6.4	0.6
Gas fireplaces	0.2	0.8	7.3	0.7
Residential ventilating fans	0.1	0.4	3.7	0.0
Server power supplies	0.6	0.9	7.8	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>--</b>

Assuming a compliance date of 2027 for all the recommended standards. Net present value savings take into account both utility bill savings and estimated impacts on product costs for items sold between 2027 and 2050. While we are recommending the adoption of state-level standards for water softeners, we have not estimated savings for these products due to insufficient data on the current market.

#### Cumulative savings estimates for: **Maine**

Potential cumulative savings through 2050							
	Electricity (GWh)	Natural gas (TBtu)	Water (billion gallons)	NO <sub>x</sub> (tons)	SO <sub>2</sub> (tons)	CO <sub>2</sub> (thousand metric tons)	Utility bill savings (million 2023\$)
Commercial battery chargers	15	--	--	1.7	0.1	1.2	1.6
Commercial dishwashers	71	0.9	1.3	48.9	0.6	53.8	52.8
Commercial fryers	5	3.3	--	151.2	0.04	176.3	50.2
Commercial ovens	47	0.3	--	20.7	0.4	22.0	12.3
Commercial steam cookers	15	0.1	0.4	8.2	0.1	8.9	12.9
Gas fireplaces	--	0.9	--	39.2	--	45.8	14.6
Residential ventilating fans	29	--	--	3.2	0.3	2.4	7.0
Server power supplies	116	--	--	12.9	1.0	9.6	17.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>169</b>

Assuming a compliance date of 2027 for all the recommended standards. While we are recommending the adoption of state-level standards for water softeners, we have not estimated savings for these products due to insufficient data on the current market.