

April 7, 2025

## **Acadia Center Testimony in Support of L.D. 1158: “An Act to Expand Appliance Energy and Water Standards”**

Dear members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on L.D. 1158: *An Act to Expand Appliance Energy and Water Standards*.

Acadia Center is a non-profit research and advocacy organization incorporated in Maine and advocating throughout the Northeast that is dedicated to a clean, affordable energy future. Acadia Center supports L.D. 1158 because it will implement and expand upon state-level appliance standards as part of a comprehensive energy efficiency program. These standards would require that the listed residential and commercial appliances meet certain energy efficiency standards that would be determined by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in rulemaking.

Previously Acadia Center supported L.D. 940, which established a list of appliances that met higher efficiency standards. L.D. 1158 would expand that list to include several more appliances, resulting in even greater energy savings for Maine consumers.

As you are no doubt aware, Mainers are genuinely concerned about the rising costs of energy. Maine businesses and consumers will save money on their electricity and water bills by using the more efficient appliances required by the bill. The Appliance Standards Awareness Project estimates that the adoption of the standards to appliances listed in L.D. 1158 would save \$69 million in utility bills alone from 2030 through 2050. In addition, the lower electricity demand of these named appliances will result in lower generation emissions- a win/win.

By voting ought to pass on L.D. 1158, Maine will join twelve other states (and Maine previously) that have adopted appliance efficiency standards like these, including Vermont, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Nevada, Washington, Maryland, Oregon, California, and Hawaii.

Acadia Center urges the Committee to support L.D. 1158. Thank you for the opportunity to testify and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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