

Kerry Read
South Paris
LD 1868

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs and members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee,

My name is Kerry Read and I live in South Paris. I am testifying in support of LD1868.

Thanks to Efficiency Maine funding I was able to replace my oil burner with electric heat pumps in my 1890s multi-family apartment building, saving thousands of gallons of fuel oil consumption and pollution each year. I made this investment in my building, for the health of my family, my tenants and my community and because it was one thing I could do to personally address the devastating effects of climate change.

I know I am joined by thousands of other Mainers who have already joined, or want to join in this effort to make Maine healthier and more resilient. But we need you, our elected officials, clearing the way and making the commitment to clean, affordable, homegrown electricity.

Electricity rates from CMP and Versant are the highest in the nation and our money is leaving Maine and going to foreign corporations. We need Maine generated solar power and statewide infrastructure to distribute clean, dependable and affordable electricity. We need to create more jobs in the energy industry for more Mainers. Solar manufacturers and installers need to be able to depend on stable and sensible policies to support their businesses and employees.

We need 100% clean electricity by 2040. We can't wait to get started on this path toward a better, healthier Maine for our children and grandchildren.

I urge you to vote, Ought to Pass on LD1868