

## TESTIMONY NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST

# L.D. 1936

# AN ACT TO PROVIDE GREATER EQUITY IN AND REDUCE COSTS RELATED TO THE STATE'S NET ENERGY BILLING PROGRAM

May 13, 2025

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, I am Steven Bailey, executive director of the Maine School Boards Association, testifying on behalf of the MSBA legislative committee neither for nor against L.D. 1936.

As our association has shared in previous testimony on this issue, we do not wish to wade into the specifics of net energy billing, but we hope your committee recognizes that dozens of Maine school districts have signed net energy billing contracts. Some have seen substantial energy savings – often ranging anywhere from tens of thousands of dollars to up to \$100,000 per year. Some are also working to sign new or expanded agreements right now. These savings have been meaningful at a time when many districts are struggling to avoid layoffs during a challenging school budget year.

Again, we do not wish to weigh on the overall merits of this particular proposal, but we would urge that schools' existing energy contracts are honored moving forward. Thank you.

MAINE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEYS

Isabel Ekman, Esq., Chair

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