

Eleanor Weisman  
Belfast  
LD 1963

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Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and Members of the Committee,  
I am writing in support of the sponsor's amendment to L.D. 1963.

L.D. 1963 is important for utility consumers in Maine because it will protect whistleblowers in a fair and equitable manner, based on the principles of "anonymity, award, and awareness."

Anonymity protects the whistleblower from reprisal and maintains confidentiality. Oftentimes, a whistleblower will lose their job, such that a small percentage of any fine imposed on the utility company may help the whistleblower financially. The award provides an incentive for an employee who recognizes any violation of rule or law under PUC jurisdiction. All Mainers deserve to be aware of violations committed by a utility company, whether that is excessive rate hikes or a violation of a safety regulation.

I hope you will support the sponsor's amendment and to help Maine lead the nation by adopting this proven model for corporate accountability. Thank you.