

Steven Ingalls  
Stetson  
LD 1777

I am writing neither for nor against LD 1777, as amended by the Sponsor on May 21, 2025. The following are my suggestions for further amendment considerations:

1) Sec. 1 35-A MRSA sub. 3209-F (1) is enacted to read: "1. Applicability of Charge. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for all front of the meter distributed generation projects, as defined by the commission, receiving kilowatt-hour credits pursuant to section 3209-A, subsection 3, a monthly volumetric charge equal to 75% of the effective transmission and distribution rate on December 31 of each year for the rate class that includes the residential rate A class of the investor-owned transmission and distribution utility shall be assessed, beginning January 1, 2026 and adjusted on January 1st of each subsequent year. The charge shall be calculated based upon the actual metered generation of the front of the meter distributed generation project." Note that the remainder of what is proposed under (A) Exception for Cooperatively Owned Projects and (B) Exemption for Significant Economic Hardship would continue to be included.

2) Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA Section 3209-A sub-10 enactment - Commission Certification. In this section I would suggest some additional language that places some level of restriction on how much in front of the meter distributed generation resource renewable energy credits that can be sold out of State.

3) Additional New Suggested Sections -

a) "Sec. 8. 36 MRSA Section 656 sub-1, paragraph L, is amended to read: For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2025, solar energy equipment that generates heat or electricity if all of the energy is used on the site where the property is located. On or before April 1st of the first property tax year for which a taxpayer claims an exemption under this paragraph, the taxpayer claiming the exemption shall file a report with the assessor. The report must identify the property for which the exemption is claimed and must be made on a form prescribed by the State Tax Assessor or a substitute form approved by the State Tax Assessor. The State Tax Assessor shall furnish copies of the form to each municipality in the State and make the forms available to taxpayers."

b) "Sec 10. 35-A MRSA Section 3214 sub-2, paragraph D, is enacted to read: Receive funds collected by the Sales and Use Tax on the sale or delivery of kilowatt hour of electricity to net energy billing customers as defined by the commission for which no money is paid to the electricity provider or to the transmission and distribution utility."