

Testimony of SARAH WHITE in Support of
LD 1730: An Act Regarding the Beneficial Electrification of the State

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and honorable members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee. I am Sarah White, resident of Tremont as well as the Chair of the Tremont Sustainability Committee. Thank you for providing me with this opportunity to support **LD 1730**, a way to provide solar power for those of us who cannot afford rooftop solar, but dearly wish to support renewable energy that supports our electricity usage and costs. I am retired and live alone in a small home in Tremont. Due to having a fixed income, and living here where the cost of living is high, I hoped to supplement my power bill by having rooftop solar. The cost is beyond my means to afford this, but through LD 1730, I could use plug-in solar that I **COULD AFFORD** and **IS SUSTAINABLE!** You can see that this is important and exciting to me that it might be accessible. My home stands in a clearing with a lovely open southern aspect; a perfect situation for affordable plug-in solar.

Maine households saw a 36.3% electricity price increase between May 2024 and May 2025. About 70% of households across the country are excluded from rooftop solar due to cost, roof constraints, or rental status. The loss of the federal solar tax credits makes rooftop systems even less affordable. LD 1730 ensures Maine stays on track with its climate goals by making access to solar more equitable and expanding participation in clean energy, even without federal subsidies. It could work beautifully here, for those of us older residents (of which we are many) who live on fixed incomes, and are facing increasing electricity costs.

Please consider this solar-based, energy-producing solution that will help us survive as well as help Maine meet her climate action goals. Maine is a climate leader in our nation which makes me proud to be a Mainer.

Thank you.
Sarah

Sarah White
209 Kelleytown Rd.
Bernard, ME 04612

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Tremont resident; Tremont Sustainability Committee
LD 1730

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