

Paul Stancioff
Camden
LD 1730

Dear Committee,

I am writing to urge support for LD 1730 (aka the "plug-in solar" bill)

There are so many positives of this bill and virtually no negatives.

- The bill imposes no cost to the state or utilities.
- No subsidies or incentives are called for.
- No impact on the utility (except maybe a small positive one in the form of free electricity to the grid)
- No net metering is involved.
- Safety is accounted for, both inside the home and for the utility (e.g. line workers). In fact, it's essentially invisible to the utility.
- It's about reducing regulatory restrictions.
- It makes solar accessible to many households who are otherwise shut out of access to solar, particularly renters and lower income households.
- Plug-in solar can save 15% to 20% off electricity usage from supplier. (even more if coupled with a battery)

This bill is very similar to Utah House Bill HB 340. The bipartisan Utah bill was written with full involvement of the utility, whose primary request was release of liability on the part of the utility. This provision was added to the bill, and is also in Maine's LD 1730. The Utah house passed the bill 72-0-3, the senate passed it 26-0-3, and the governor signed it on March 3rd of this year.