

Jill Linzee
New Harbor
LD 1730

To Committee Chairs Senator Lawrence and Representative Sachs and Members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for LD 1730, An Act to Make Small, Portable, Plug-in Solar Generation Devices Accessible for All Maine Residents to Address the Energy Affordability Crisis.

This bill will help to make renewable energy both available and more affordable for all Mainers. It will update Maine's rules to allow residents to use small, portable plug-in solar devices without the interconnection requirements designed for large rooftop arrays.

This will mean that Mainers who are low to moderate-income, renters, seniors on a fixed income, and others who don't have an appropriate siting for a solar array, would now have access to an inexpensive solar power generator that could easily be used at their home. At a time when energy costs are rapidly increasing, the one-time investment in the plug-in solar device could help a great many Mainers reduce their energy bills.

As a Unitarian Universalist, one important value of my faith is equity and inclusion. LD 1730 supports that value by helping to provide a much greater segment of our population with access to more affordable energy. It will also enable them to participate in the critical shift to clean, renewable energy and help Maine meet our important climate goals.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this important bill.

Jill Linzee
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