



Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
% Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

January 22, 2026

Re: Public Hearing, LD 2112, An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity

Dear Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share testimony in support of LD 2112, *An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity*, on behalf of the Maine Renewable Energy Association (“MREA”). MREA is a not-for-profit association of renewable energy producers, suppliers of goods and services to those producers, and other supporters of the industry. Our member companies include wind, solar, hydropower, and biomass energy generators and developers of such projects, as well as companies that provide services to those producers, such as environmental engineers, electricians, and general contractors.

LD 2112 authorizes municipalities or groups of municipalities to establish community choice aggregation programs (CCA programs). Municipalities would evaluate a CCA program and vote whether to move forward with a program, after which residents receiving default service would be automatically enrolled in the electricity supply contract negotiated by an “aggregator” on behalf of and under the guidance of the municipality, unless the resident elected to opt out.

MREA supports LD 2112 because it would provide municipalities with greater agency to include renewable energy as a part of their electricity supply contract, whether in support of the municipalities’ local sustainability initiatives or to realize the other benefits of Maine-grown renewable energy including economic development and job creation. Notably, CCA programs have been established by legislation in 10 states, are utilized by 1,200 communities, and serve roughly 7% of the U.S. residential consumption. Such states have increased the use of renewable energy resources.

MREA specifically supports the Sponsor’s Amendment distributed on January 14, 2026 because it would cause residents that participate in net energy billing (NEB) to only participate in the CCA program with their consent - in other words, resident NEB customers would not be

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automatically opted-in. MREA members have witnessed a lack of clarity on the treatment of similar residents in New Hampshire, which has led to confusion. This amendment provides necessary clarity.

Finally, as the Committee contemplates this bill and - should it become law - as municipalities consider a CCA program, MREA urges an emphasis on thorough, clear communication to residents. While negotiated energy contracts will vary by municipality, residents must be clear-eyed on precisely what they're signing up for, including whether benefits will accrue on a monthly, annually, or on a longer term basis.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eliza Donoghue". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Eliza Donoghue, Esq.
Executive Director