



SIERRA CLUB

MAINE CHAPTER

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To: Joint Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
From: Matthew Cannon, Sierra Club Maine
Date: January 21, 2026
Re: **Testimony in Support of 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 Joint Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology,

I write on behalf of the Sierra Club Maine Chapter, representing over 22,000 supporters and members statewide. Founded in 1892, Sierra Club is one of our nation's oldest and largest environmental organizations. We work diligently to amplify the power of our 3.8 million supporters and members nationwide as we work towards combating climate change and promoting a just and sustainable future for all people. To that end, we present this testimony in support of LD 2112.

This bill gives Maine municipalities a tool that is already widely used across the country: the ability to aggregate the electric load of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts to procure electricity competitively on their behalf.

So far, 10 states across the U.S., both red and blue, have enabled Community Choice Aggregation (you can see which [here](#)). They are achieving local control of energy supply, often in pursuit of state and local clean energy goals, and lower rates. Our closest neighbor New Hampshire implemented what they term "Community Power" in 2023. This model is a nonprofit, community-driven organization that helps cities, towns, and counties take charge of their electricity supply, save money, and invest in a clean energy future. It has reached over 70 communities across the state, with [clear benefits](#). In [California](#), 24 communities serving 15 million people have chosen the CCA route. The CCA that has been operating since 2010 there—[MCE Clean Energy](#)—is saving their customers money while providing energy that is *greenhouse gas free*.

For Mainers, the immediate benefits involve local control, enhancement of individual choice, and non-profit management of the savings from aggregated purchasing power that could be used to invest in our clean energy future. Maine's ten utilities could continue to operate as they do now, or, if they are a municipal utility, could associate with a community choice entity to have even more control.

Two important components of this bill:

- Local control and transparency. Municipalities must adopt a plan through a vote of their legislative body, and the plan must be reviewed and approved by the PUC through rulemaking. A municipality can choose to optimize its purchase based on price, stability (long- or short-term), and the percent of renewable energy, if any, depending on what residents want.
- Strong consumer protections. CCA customers enjoy the same consumer protections as those offered by competitive electricity providers today. Explicit protections for low-income and electric assistance program customers. The CCA program ensures no loss of benefits, no added fees, and continued application of all existing utility-administered discounts and protections.

The Maine PUC's standard offer rates would benefit from having more nimble competitors providing supply rates from local sources more responsive to market availability. As clean energy providers proliferate, they could increase competition to lower rates.

In essence, this bill is about choice and competition. It allows municipalities that want to pursue price stability, local energy goals, or procurement innovation to do so, while allowing others to do so. The bill places Maine alongside neighboring states by giving local governments a lawful, regulated pathway to aggregate demand and negotiate electricity supply on behalf of their communities.

Community Choice energy aggregation should be added to the set of solutions available in Maine. Please vote 'Ought to Pass' for LD 2112.

Matt Cannon
State Conservation & Energy Director
Sierra Club Maine