

Nate Davis
Rockland
LD 2112

Distinguished members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology,
My name is Nate Davis. I serve on the Rockland City Council and on the Executive Committee of Sierra Club Maine, though in this message I write only for myself.

I write in support of LD 2112, An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity.

While Rockland has not discussed Community Choice Aggregation, I am personally enthusiastic about the possibility of this choice becoming available for our city. The key word here is "choice": LD 2112 would enable CCA as an option for municipalities, and would enable consumers to opt out.

You have read in the submitted testimony quite a few good reasons to support this: lower and more predictable rates for consumers, greater access to renewable energy, and demonstrated results elsewhere. You have also read some dubious testimony in opposition. Both CMP and Versant object that LD 2112 would necessitate changes to their billing systems.

Step back and consider: We are hurtling ever deeper into twin crises, one of affordability and the other of our warming climate. CCA is a tool that DIRECTLY addresses both - and even better (contrary to the claims of the Maine Policy Institute), accomplishes this by enabling more flexibility and adaptability in the electricity market. Are we going to leave this tool unused because the two largest electrical utilities in the state would suffer the inconvenience of having to modify their billing software? I hope that sounds as absurd to you as it does to me.

Sincerely,
Nate Davis