

Tessa Burpee
Brewer
LD 2174

Dear Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

I am writing to ask that you reject LD 2174, a bill that would override local ordinances that regulate solar, wind, transmission, and energy storage.

As a lifelong Mainer whose family has stewarded the same farmland for six generations, I believe progress works best when it respects both the land and the communities connected to it. Decisions about development should reflect local knowledge and conditions, which is why local decision-making remains essential to protecting the working lands, landscapes, and communities that define Maine.

Large-scale energy infrastructure can reshape farms, forests, tourism, and property values for generations, which is why local decision-making — not just local input — is essential to responsible long-term planning. When authority is removed from the communities most directly affected, rural regions are left to absorb the long-term impacts on their land, economies, and way of life, undermining both local stability and public trust.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote “ought not to pass” on this legislation and instead support policies that uphold local stewardship and the voices of communities across our state.

Sincerely,
Tessa Burpee