

131st Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 24

Senator Eloise Vitelli
Senate Majority Leader
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
Office (207) 287-1515

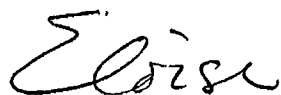
Testimony of Senator Eloise Vitelli introducing
LD 417, An Act to Facilitate Net Energy Billing
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
March 2, 2023

Senator Lawrence, Representative Zeigler, and Esteemed Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Eloise Vitelli, and I proudly represent Senate District 24, which includes all of Sagadahoc County and Dresden. Today I am pleased to introduce my bill LD 417, “An Act to Facilitate Net Energy Billing.”

LD 417 aims to promote bill transparency for consumers. Right now, community solar consumers are very confused about their solar credits. The confusion stems from how these consumers are billed. The current billing system sends two bills to consumers, one from the utility and one from the community solar provider. In order to see the savings, the consumers have to compare the two bills to ensure they receive their credits. It doesn’t make sense to the consumers, and it doesn’t make sense to me.

When a consumer signs up for community solar, they agree to terms that say the utility is able to provide their usage data to the solar company. Despite this, the utilities are not providing the information in a timely fashion so that the consumers – in some cases – don’t get the benefit of the savings because these are credits which last for a finite amount of time. If consumers aren’t provided a credit in a timely fashion, then their credit could get kicked out by no fault of their own. The intent of this bill is to facilitate timely data sharing and more accurate billing between and among utilities and community solar.

Thank you for your time, I will do my best to answer any questions you may have.



Eloise Vitelli
Senate Majority Leader, Senate District 24
Sagadahoc County and Dresden