

THIRD ACT MAINE

Committed to stopping new fossil fuel projects and investments

Chairperson Representative Roeder, Chairperson Senator Tipping and esteemed members of the Housing and Labor Committee, I strongly support LD 1818.

My name is Renee Givner. I am on the Legislative Committee of Third Act Maine. We are a climate action group of people over age 60 whose goal is to pressure the largest banks in the country to stop funding new fossil fuel projects and start being serious about funding renewable energy. We are part of the national Third Act organization. Our age group holds a good percentage of the investments in this country so we are hoping we can influence the divestment of new fossil fuel projects. The climate does not look promising for our children and grandchildren unless we can keep carbon emissions down to levels consistent with the IPCC's target. Third Act Maine supports LD 1818 for it's good paying clean energy jobs which are vital for Maine's offshore wind energy projects.

The Inflation Reduction Act champions transition to a clean energy economy. Fortunately, at the state level, unlike the US Congress, clean energy producers are not all about party affiliation. Texas, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma & Illinois are the biggest producers of wind energy. The biggest producers of solar energy are California, Texas, Florida, North Carolina, Nevada and Arizona. Solar energy is now the cheapest energy to produce. We have come a long way in the last 10 years. Now the goal is to keep fossil fuels in the ground as much as possible.

Maine can be a leader in clean energy, particularly off-shore wind installations, by providing high paying clean energy jobs equitably. It is a win-win. I am counting on it for our kids and our grandchildren. Thank you for this important work.

Renee Givner, Falmouth ME, retired Chemical Engineer.