

Testimony from Christian McCullough, in Support of L.D. 1895, "An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy from Offshore Wind Resources"

Senator Lawrence, Representative Zeigler, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology, my name is Christian McCullough and I'm here today to speak in favor of L D 1895 I'm an electrician, I'm a member of IBEW 567, and I live in Auburn

Born and raised right in Auburn I have worked numerous jobs and been part of a great community Graduating from Edward Little in 2009, Enlisting into the Army National Guard in 2012 and then serving until 2020 I have seen changes both good and bad in our state

Today we are all here to talk about the Offshore Wind Project This isn't only beneficial for the state, but it's beneficial for my brothers and sisters of local 567 and local 1253 This project will bring plenty of work for years to come and will only improve as it moves forward This will guarantee more families to stay in the state vs traveling across state lines to find other electrical work Not only is it good for us, it will be good for Searsport and surrounding towns as we help boost their economy's by shopping and spending money there for lunch, lodging, and more

So far Solar has been a great thing for this state by helping reduce our carbon footprint and combating climate issues As time and technology change, so do our views on how to improve the climate crisis even more If we all want a better future for our families and children then now is the time to act upon it Let's lead the country in a giant project like this and make Offshore Wind a stepping stone in making the planet a better place

You want good work and top quality results? You put this work in the hands of our Union and we will get the job done correctly and efficiently You want poor work and mediocre results? You pass it off to non union workers who don't carry the proper licensing and training to give you great end results If you look at our Apprenticeship program you'll realize that our Older Journeyman are passing on their Skills and Knowledge to the younger generations who will continue to get better and pass that on as new classes come in 4 years of school and 8,000 hours of On The Job Training is what separates us from the non union division

All eyes are on you at this point and its up to you to make not only the smart decision, but the right decision

Thank you for your time