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THE MAINE SENATE  
132nd Legislature

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**Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology**  
**LD 469, An Act to Prioritize State Access to Electricity Generated in**  
**Canada via High-impact Electric Transmission Lines**  
**March 11, 2025**

Good afternoon, Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. I am Joe Martin and I proudly represent the citizens of Senate District 19, which includes much of Northern Oxford County and communities in Franklin County. I am here to present LD 469, An Act to Prioritize State Access to Electricity Generated in Canada via High-impact Electric Transmission Lines.”

**LD 469** establishes a local consumption standard for high-impact electric transmission lines delivering electricity from Canada to Maine and New England, requiring at least 50% of transmitted electricity to be consumed within Maine. Starting December 31, 2026, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) cannot certify these lines unless they meet the standard, with exceptions for grid reliability or energy security.

Operators must file quarterly reports on electricity delivery and consumption, with penalties for non-compliance deposited into a new PUC Energy Affordability Fund, which will provide customer rebates. Transmission utilities and competitive electricity providers must submit annual reports on efforts to encourage business growth in Maine.

The PUC must complete two evaluations: a December 31, 2025, report on reducing costs and increasing consumption, and a December 31, 2030, assessment of the standard’s impact. The bill is set to be repealed on December 31, 2031, making it a temporary policy aimed at benefiting Maine’s economy and electricity consumers.

**Key Benefits to Maine Citizens and Businesses:**

1. **Lower Electricity Costs** – Keeping more electricity within Maine reduces reliance on expensive imports, making energy more affordable.
2. **Economic Growth** – Encouraging local consumption supports businesses, attracts new investments, and promotes job creation.
3. **Energy Security** – Ensuring Maine benefits from its own energy infrastructure strengthens reliability and protects against external price fluctuations.

Thank you for your consideration of LD 469. I urge you to vote “ought to pass” and would be happy to answer any questions.