



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Testimony of Representative Melanie Sachs introducing
*LD 860, An Act to Require Competitive Electricity Providers to Provide Certain Information
to the Public Advocate***

Before the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Senator Lawrence and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Melanie Sachs, and I am honored to represent the community of Freeport in the Maine Legislature.

I am before you today to introduce *LD 860, An Act to Require Competitive Electricity Providers to Provide Certain Information to the Public Advocate*, a bill submitted on behalf of the Office of the Public Advocate.

This is a simple bill, which comes directly from the recommendations of the Electric Ratepayer Advisory Council (ERAC). The ERAC is charged with evaluating the affordability of electricity in Maine and advising the Public Advocate on potential savings measures. Per the Council's recommendations, this bill allows the Office of the Public Advocate to access the data it needs to complete research into the competitive electricity market to determine the extent to which low-income ratepayers are being overcharged by competitive electricity providers.

I recommend the Public Advocate, per our Committee rules, be allowed to address the committee next to further discuss the proposed legislation.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to submit this bill for your consideration.