



STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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**Testimony of the Maine Public Utilities Commission**

**In Support Of**

**LD 905, An Act to Clarify the Process to Transfer Funds Resulting from the  
Expiration of Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits to Be Used to Provide Assistance to  
Low-income Electricity Customers**

March 26, 2025

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and Distinguished Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology (Committee), my name is Deirdre Schneider, testifying in support of LD 905, An Act to Clarify the Process to Transfer Funds Resulting from the Expiration of Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits to Be Used to Provide Assistance to Low-income Electricity Customers on behalf of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

During the 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature, Public Law 2023, chapter 230 was enacted requiring that the value of all unused kilowatt-hour credits that were accumulated and that expired during the prior calendar year be remitted to the Commission by January 1<sup>st</sup> to be used for the benefit of individuals participating in the low-income assistance program (LIAP).

The LIAP is administered by the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA). When the Commission receives funds from the utilities as required by law, the Commission then must transfer those funds to MSHA, which requires a financial order signed by the Governor. This process delays the availability of funds. Additionally, since the funds are to encompass all expired credits through December 31<sup>st</sup>, remittance by January 1<sup>st</sup> is not feasible.

LD 905 addresses these issues by requiring that the value of expired credits is remitted directly to MSHA, moving the date for remittance to April 1<sup>st</sup> annually and requiring the utilities to report to the Commission information regarding the number of unused credits that were accumulated and monetized so the Commission can track this information and ensure that the appropriate funds were transferred for the benefit of customers participating in the LIAP.

LD 905 simply streamlines the current process and makes compliance with these requirements feasible.

I would be happy to answer any questions or provide additional information for the work session.