



**Christopher J. Kessler**

39 Stanley Street  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Phone: (207) 956-0882

[Christopher.Kessler@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Christopher.Kessler@legislature.maine.gov)

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

## **TESTIMONY BEFORE THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES & TECHNOLOGY**

### **LD 1967 - Resolve, to Establish the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Pilot Program**

May 15, 2025

Senator Lawrence, Representative Sachs, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities & Technology:

LD 1967 is being introduced to help the people of Maine make the most strategic decisions they can about improving their home's efficiency with the resources they have available to them. This Resolve is also an opportunity to ensure that we maximize the reach and impact of public dollars. The bill is inspired by years of experience in building science, weatherization, HVAC and solar contracting, local volunteers doing good by their neighbors and a recognition by the Maine Climate Council that there is a knowledge gap in the public that needs to be addressed.

The Resolve directs the newly formed Office of Community Affairs, in partnership with the Efficiency Maine Trust, the Maine State Housing Authority and the Governor's Energy Office to establish the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Pilot Program to support energy efficiency of residential properties, enhance consumer protection and expand access to energy assistance programs, particularly for low-income and underserved communities.

From Maine Won't Wait 2.0:

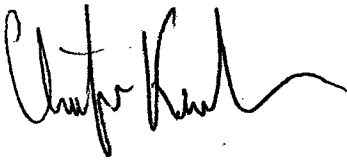
"Establishing an energy coaching program could improve access to energy assistance programs and state and federal funding opportunities. Navigators would help low-income and underserved people and communities understand their options for meeting their energy needs through grants, rebates or other incentives. Program designers and implementers should work with community-based organizations and tribal governments to ensure outreach efforts successfully reach underserved populations."

Maine Won't Wait 2.0: Strategy C - Transition to Clean Energy  
Decrease energy burdens while transitioning to clean energy (p. 79-80)

I have spent the past 15 years of my life helping homeowners reduce their energy consumption, and I can personally attest that people have a hard time navigating the many decisions that need to be made. In order to make the most sound financial decision, a homeowner needs to understand how their homes work, where the waste is occurring and how to fix it, the types of heating systems and fuels available to use, how to keep the home safe and healthy and how to pay for it all with the rebates, tax credits, financing or public assistance available to them. I believe this pilot program could be an opportunity to help homeowners navigate these waters, and potentially serve as a way to improve how we administer our state energy efficiency programs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Kessler", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rep. Christopher Kessler