



# Maine Conservation Voters

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Testimony of Sarah Woodbury, Legislative Director, Maine Conservation Voters  
In Support of LD 2212 An Act Making Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the  
General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain  
Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal  
Years Ending June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027  
Before the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee  
February 26, 2026

Good afternoon, Senator Rotundo, Representative Gattine, and distinguished members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. My name is Sarah Woodbury, and I am the Legislative Director for Maine Conservation Voters (MCV). MCV represents over 14,000 members and supporters who are building a just, thriving future for all by acting on the climate crisis, protecting the environment, and safeguarding our democracy. I am here today to testify in support of LD 2212 An Act Making Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027. Specifically the sections related to the Department of Energy Resources (DOER).

The three million dollars asked for by DOER will help federal Grid Resilience Formula Grant Program which will leverage an additional \$4.4 million in federal funds that will otherwise be reapportioned to other states. This will bring in much-needed federal dollars to help update and modernize the grid. Maine experiences more frequent and longer outages than most other states due to being a heavily forested and rural state. In addition, The Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program saves ratepayers money while investing in critical reliability and resilience projects across the state, strengthening the state's infrastructure in the face of severe storms. Utilizing this grant program to fund these projects will help to reduce outages and avoid \$6.6 million in electricity infrastructure needs that would otherwise be funded by ratepayers.

Finally, LD 2212 ensures that the Maine Department of Energy Resources has the ability to finalize the budgetary transfers required as a result of the transition from the Governor's Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources. Finalizing the transition and funding the Public

Service Coordinator II position will ensure that DOER has the staffing and technical expertise necessary to carry out its statutory responsibilities effectively.

For all these reasons, MCV respectfully urges the Committee to support LD 2212 and fully fund the budgetary priorities of the Maine Department of Energy Resources. These investments will deliver long-term savings, economic opportunity, and energy security for the people of Maine.