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In 1993, 72% of Maine voters voted to amend the Maine Constitution to include Article IX, Section 23 to the Maine Constitution, which in part states: "State parkland, public lots or other real estate held by the State for conservation or recreation purposes and designated by legislation implementing this section may not be reduced or its uses substantially altered except on the vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of all the members elected to each house."

The next year, the Legislature implemented this constitutional amendment.

Even though the law and our Constitution are clear, two different administrations entered into leases with CMP for the construction of the NECEC Corridor without meeting this requirement.

LD471 reaffirms that the Bureau of Public Lands must secure a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote for the approval of their lease with CMP. Without such legislative approval, the NECEC Corridor project should be halted until such approval is granted.