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Hobbins

Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

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PUBLIC ADVOCATE

April 13, 2021

Chairman Lawrence, Chairman Berry and Members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee,

My name is Barry Hobbins and I am the Public Advocate with the Office of the Public Advocate and I am here today to testify neither for nor against LD 1332 “An Act Regarding Net Energy Billing Limits.”

The OPA is supportive of participation in Net Energy Billing and appreciate Representative Berry submitting this bill. We would also like to echo the sentiments of those who have testified before us. However, it would be difficult for the Office of the Public Advocate to support this piece of legislation if it results in an increase of rates in order for the utility to institute this policy. We would hope that the utilities would be able to implement this change under their current customer information system modifications to accommodate the community solar changes.

Thank you for your time, attention and consideration of this testimony. The Office of the Public Advocate looks forward to working with the Committee on LD 1332, and will be present at the work session to assist the Committee in its consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Barry J. Hobbins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and a long, sweeping underline.

Barry J. Hobbins
Public Advocate