



Manufacturers Association of Maine

**Testimony of
Jessica L. Laliberte**

**On behalf of the Manufacturers Association of Maine
In Support of**

**LD 1554 An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive
Businesses**

April 27, 2021

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology. My name is Jessica Laliberte and I serve as the policy relations manager for the Manufacturers Association of Maine. We are a non-partisan, pro-growth, pro-manufacturing trade organization. We represent 400 manufacturers and the 29,000 workers they employ in aerospace, metal, paper, marine/boat building, semi-conductor, wood, textile, aquaculture, biotech, medical device, electronics, RF and wireless communications, plastics, composites and bioplastics, studio and food and beverage manufacturing.

It is our pleasure to offer testimony in support of **LD 1554 An Act to Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses.**

As you know energy cost contribute greatly to the cost of doing business in Maine. This bill seeks to establish a fund that uses revenue from the sale of carbon dioxide allowances to provide loans to energy-intensive manufacturers and other businesses to become more efficient and use less energy in their operations.

Under this proposal the loan is forgivable if after 5 years the number of employees stays the same or increases. MAME sees this as a win-win proposition. Industry would receive assistance in lowering their energy cost while potentially growing their workforce. The Manufacturers Association of Maine is committed to advocating for energy policies that reduce costs, promote sustainability, and develop new energy solutions aimed at preserving the natural beauty of Maine. Additionally, we are committed to policies and strategies that will grow our workforce.

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"The Manufacturers Association of Maine is dedicated to promoting and growing manufacturing."

We thank Representative Wadsworth for sponsoring this legislation and would ask the committee for its full support with an Ought to Pass vote. Thank you for your consideration.

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