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**Proposed Amendment to LD 1634, An Act to Create the Maine Generation Authority
(Representative Grohoski)**

Amend section 3 of the bill on page 1, lines 22 to 32 as follows:

2. Purpose. It is the purpose of this chapter to reduce the costs to Maine ratepayers of meeting the State's climate and energy goals by facilitating the decarbonization of electricity through the financing and ownership by the authority of:

A. Energy generation projects that are located in the State that generate electricity using renewable fuels or sources of energy, including, but not limited to, solar, wind, water, wave, tidal and biomass that produce zero greenhouse gas emissions or, for those projects located in federal waters in the Gulf of Maine, are capable of delivering all electricity generated into Maine in amounts sufficient to meet or offset residential and business energy requirements; and

B. ~~Electricity~~ Energy storage systems located in ~~Maine~~ the State that can store sufficient quantities of electricity generated by renewable generation projects to enable the State's electricity grid to meet total demands for electricity at all times in the State.

Amend section 3 of the bill on page 4 after line 35 as follows:

11. Conflicts. A member of the board may not participate in any decision on any contract entered into by the authority under this chapter if that member has any interest, direct or indirect, in any firm, partnership, corporation or association that is party to the contract. The interest must be disclosed to the authority in writing and must be set forth in the minutes of the board.

12. Remote participation by members. The authority may allow members to participate in meetings using remote methods in accordance with Title 1, section 403-B.

Amend section 3 of the bill by replacing lines 35-43 on page 12 and lines 1 to 2 on page 13 with the following:

§4215. Exemption from taxes; payments in lieu of taxes

1. Exemption from taxes. Except as provided in subsection 2, the accomplishment by the authority of the authorized purpose stated in this chapter being for the benefit of the people of the State and for the improvement of their commerce and prosperity in which accomplishment the authority will be performing essential governmental functions, the authority may not be required

to pay any taxes or assessment on any property acquired or used by it for the purposes provided in this chapter, nor may the authority be required to pay any tax upon its income except as may be required by the laws of the United States, and the bonds or other securities and obligations issued from the authority, their transfer and the income therefrom, including any profits made on the sale thereof, must at all times be free from taxation within the State.

2. Payments in lieu of property taxes. The authority shall make payments in lieu of taxes on all real property it owns in an amount equal to that which would otherwise be imposed by a county, a district, the State or other taxing authority on such real property.

Amend section 3 of the bill on page 15, line 6 through 8 as follows:

A. The capital plan and budget each year must provide for the development ~~by third-parties and ownership by the authority~~ of renewable generation projects and energy storage systems ~~and the ownership by the authority of those projects and systems.~~ ~~in the~~ The following cumulative amounts of renewable generation projects and energy storage systems are set forth below to guide the authority in carrying out its obligations:

SUMMARY

This amendment does the following:

1. It clarifies the purpose of the Maine Generation Authority by specifying it is to enable the State to meet its climate and energy goals at the lowest cost to electricity ratepayers;
2. It adds a provision that specifies that a member of the board may not participate in any decision on any contract entered into by the authority if that member has any interest, direct or indirect, in any firm, partnership, corporation or association that is party to the contract and requires that the interest must be disclosed to the authority in writing and must be set forth in the minutes of the board;
3. It allows the authority to allow members to participate in meetings using remote methods in accordance with Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 403-B;
4. It requires the authority to make payments in lieu of taxes on all real property it owns in an amount equal to that which would otherwise be imposed by a county, a district, the State, or other taxing authority on such real property;
5. It clarifies that the development of renewable energy projects and energy storage systems is to be performed by a 3rd-party;
6. It clarifies that the targets for the amount of renewable generation projects and energy storage systems for each year are specified to guide the authority in carrying out its obligations; and
7. It makes technical corrections.