

Local 4 International Union of OPERATING ENGINEERS

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Testimony of Robert Burr on behalf of International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 4

Speaking Neither for or Against LD 336, *An Act to Encourage Research to Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry*

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and Members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Robert Burr I reside in Scarborough, ME and I am testifying on behalf of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 4 Maine/NH, neither for or against LD 336, An Act to Encourage Research to Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry.

The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) represents heavy equipment operators and mechanics in the construction sector throughout the United States and Canada, including 500 men and women right here in Maine. IUOE members have helped build the infrastructure that moves and powers America.

The IUOE would like to see strong labor language on this work coming to Maine. While we recognize the need for offshore wind currently, this bill does not have any labor provisions. Maine should have strong labor provisions in the form of a project labor agreement attached like our neighboring State of Massachusetts just completed for Vineyard Wind. If you would please include the IUOE to the work sessions to discuss strong PLA language, I would appreciate it. In conclusion, I want to thank Senator Lawrence for his commitment to include labor in these discussions going forward. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Burr
Business Representative
International Union of Operating Engineers Local 4