



May 10, 2021

Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee
Hon. Senator Mark Lawrence, Chair
Hon. Representative Seth Berry, Chair
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: L.D. 336

'An Act To Encourage Research To Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry'

Dear Members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology,

I write today on behalf of Reed & Reed, one of northern New England's largest and most versatile general contractors. Our company was founded as a bridge-building firm in 1928 by Captain Josiah W. Reed and his son Carlton Day Reed, and has prospered under four generations of family leadership to build a long-standing reputation for excellence. In the 90+ years since, we have expanded from a bridge-building company into many different markets including the renewable energy market.

We would like to express our appreciation for this committee's efforts to stimulate the growth of Maine's renewable energy sector. Renewable energy projects represent a significant portion of Reed & Reed's business around the country and our company stands ready to help this committee meet your energy and climate goals.

As Maine's leading contractor in building onshore wind energy projects, we support and encourage research for the offshore wind industry as well. Reed & Reed plays a significant role as a primary contractor in the State of Maine, and we are eager to participate in the construction of the University of Maine's VoltturnUS project. This is a relatively small project that is geared towards research and will be the basis for future projects in Federal waters. A carefully planned offshore wind development program that considers the many uses of the Gulf of Maine waters will have lasting economic benefits for the state.

REED & REED



Maine is at an exciting juncture for renewable energy. Between the leadership of this committee, Governor Mills and the direction set by policymakers in Washington, we have the opportunity to take advantage of these environmentally friendly projects. Renewable energy is exactly the right kind of infrastructure needed to build a more sustainable future while bringing much-needed growth to our state, which has endured great economic hardship due to the COVID pandemic.

We very much hope the committee will seize the opportunity and pass transformative renewable energy legislation this session.

Respectfully,

Jackson A. Parker
Chairman & CEO