



# Maine Credit Union League

Testimony by Robert Caverly  
Neither For Nor Against LD 1659

*An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator*  
May 12, 2021

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and distinguished members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Robert Caverly and I am the Vice President of Governmental Affairs at the Maine Credit Union League. I am submitting testimony on LD 1659, An Act To Create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator. The Maine Credit Union League is the trade association for Maine's 54 credit unions and over 725,000 members statewide.

The League has participated in several stakeholder meetings and briefings on this important and serious proposal. We are pleased to see diverse and bipartisan support for this proposal. However, we wonder if LD 1659 is a case where policymakers might be "putting the cart before the horse." The League is a proponent of LD 1556, which proposes to set up a commission to further study green energy financing. Having that commission meet and offer a report would benefit the efforts that are proposed in LD 1659.

The League does appreciate that proponents use existing agencies within state government to create the Maine Clean Energy Sustainability Accelerator. We would caution the committee from straying from that proposal. Creating a new entity is not necessary and could impede on Maine based financial institutions' ability to engage and be a part of the green energy financing solution. Credit unions across our state are financing more and more green energy products. The credit union system would like to continue to support this growth.

The League appreciates the committee accepting our comments and viewpoints on LD 1659.