

Fred Horch
Brunswick

Greetings to Honorable Committee Chairs Senator Lawrence and Representative Berry and to all the members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology committee of the Maine Legislature.

I write in support of LD 1682, which will allow our Public Utilities Commission to do a better job to create a better future for Maine. Despite the fact that pollution from our regulated electricity generation system is a clear and present danger to the health and safety of everyone in Maine, commissioners for many decades have struggled to make decisions that are in our best interest because the statutory language describing the purpose of the PUC lacks any acknowledgement of the necessity to consider environmental health and justice in addition to short-term economic interests.

This bill corrects that oversight and will enable future commissioners to make better decisions on behalf of current and future generations of Mainers.

I urge you to pass LD 1682 out of committee and encourage your colleagues in the Legislature and our Governor to enact this into law to improve our PUC's ability to make wiser decisions regarding our public utilities.

Sincerely,
Fred Horch, JD
Brunswick, Maine