



Testimony in Support of LD 1556

Resolve, To Create the Commission to Study and Recommend a Financing Model to Increase Capital Investment in Renewable Energy, Clean Energy Technology, Energy Efficiency Projects and Jobs in Maine

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry and distinguished members of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. My name is Kathy Keneborus, and I am a resident of Hollis. I am Vice President of Government Relations at the Maine Bankers Association, a state-wide trade association representing Maine's 28 retail banks and their 9,000 employees.

This testimony is in support of LD 1556. The MBA recognizes the climate change challenges facing our society, and that banks will play a key role in financing the creation and deployment of solutions that mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, promote green energy generation, and strengthen community resilience. We look forward to continuing to work with policymakers and other interested parties to reach the goals set in Maine's Climate Plan.

We want to thank Senator Carney for sponsoring LD 1556. We feel that creating the Commission outlined in the bill is an important step to move Maine forward in achieving our climate goals. We respectfully request the Committee consider a modification to the qualification for one of the two Commission's finance representative positions. We would like to see one of those positions be required to be held by a banker representing an FDIC insured financial institution doing business in Maine. We feel having an FDIC insured bank represented on the Commission will help to highlight any current bank regulation issues that may need to be addressed by the Commission.

Thank you for allowing me to testify today on this very important issue. We hope you will support LD 1556 with our minor suggested amendment.

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