



Senator Curry, Representative Roberts, Members of the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement, and Business, my name is Matthew Tarpey, and I represent Marine Solar Technologies as a co-founder, and the CEO.

I am testifying today to express my strong support for the creation of a Blue Economy taskforce, as I believe it is imperative to tackle some of the challenges we have in front of us.

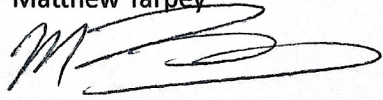
Marine Solar Technologies is a young company based out of Biddeford, Maine, that specializes in marine based environmental technology. The focus of the company is water chemistry monitoring technology. We are currently in the process of piloting a low-cost, multi-faceted autonomous water monitoring buoy. The design is such that the product will provide highly localized data, transmitted cellularly in real-time, with seven metrics currently incorporated into proprietary software system's code base.

This intertwines with the creation of a Blue Economy Taskforce in a number of ways, but I would like to focus on two specifically. At it's core, Marine Solar Technologies mission is to provide data to stakeholders through technology enablement. The company believes this is of vital importance due to the dire need for policy makers and community leaders to be able to make data driven decisions to build the necessary practices and infrastructure to improve coastal resiliency. Having an entity such as the proposed task force that will understand where to direct the data collected, as well as important areas for testing will be of paramount importance for future resource allocation, assuring the highest value of investment for stakeholders.

Furthermore, the proposed taskforce would cultivate a situation where the emerging industry of marine based environmental technology can thrive. Maine is in such a unique and advantageous situation when it comes to developing this industry. Between the fast rate of change in the Gulf of Maine, the rapidly growing aquaculture industry, and the history of boat building in the state, Maine is truly positioned to become global leaders in developing technologies, practices, and a culture to combat maritime climate change. In order for Maine to reach fulfill it's potential within this industry, and compete globally, it must collaborate locally.

For these reasons, I give my full support to this resolution,

Matthew Tarpey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MT', with a large, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Marine Solar Technologies

Chief Executive Officer