

April 23, 2025

Joint Standing Committee on Housing Legislative Information Office 100 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Testimony from ReVision Energy in Opposition to LD 406, LD 539, LD 1273, LD 1249 Regarding the Repeal, Delay, or Diminishment of the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor:

ReVision Energy ("ReVision") was founded in Liberty, Maine in 2003 and today boasts 225 coowners across the state in our Montville and South Portland locations. We are a certified B-Corporation, 100% employee owned clean energy construction company, specializing in the development and installation of residential, community, and commercial solar, as well as storage, EV charging, and heat pumps. Our mission is to make life better for all Mainers by building our just and equitable electric future. This mission directly speaks to the need to ensure an energy transition that is both just and equitable—which encompasses the need to ensure workforce and labor practices work for all Mainers. For this reason, we strongly supported the legislative efforts in 2023 to advance a paid family and medical leave program.

ReVision thrives when our co-owners are healthy and relieved of the stress of needing to care for family members while balancing work. We believe all employers in Maine will benefit from their employees receiving reasonable access to an equitable paid family and medical leave program. We were proud to see such enabling legislation pass in our home state, and we believe the Department of Labor has carried out an effective rulemaking process regarding programmatic implementation.

Before you today are multiple proposals that repeal, delay, or diminish the state's program—all before it has even begun. We think this is unfair. While we believe all policy is iterative and lessons learned should provide essential feedback in which to fairly adjust programs moving forward, it does not make sense to eliminate or hinder a program before it has even started. Other jurisdictions and nations have proved that it is possible to create a successful program that is financially solvent and benefits workers and employers is entirely possible—but for that to happen here in Maine, we need to advance the program we have already carefully developed.

As an employer, we believe such a program will help businesses like ours attract and retain workers, enabling a thriving labor market in our state. We appreciate your leadership in ensuring the thoughtful implementation of this program, critical to increasing equity in and growing and sustaining Maine's workforce.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lindsay Bourgoine

Lindsay Bourgoine Director, Policy & Government Affairs ReVision Energy