

Randall Parr
Appleton

Chairmen & Members of the Veterans & Legal Affairs Committee:

A vietnam era Veteran and native living in Appleton I support yes - ought to pass - on LD194

An Act To Prohibit Contributions, Expenditures and Participation by Foreign Government-owned Entities To Influence Referenda"

Sponsored by Senator Richard Bennett

And yes - ought to pass - on LD479

"An Act To Ban Foreign Campaign Contributions and Expenditures in Maine Elections"

Sponsored by Representative Kyle Bailey.

HydroQuebec is a Crown Corporation solely owned by the Province of Quebec
HydroQuebec paid \$9.2 million into their political action committee last year. U S Federal law prohibits foreign interference in elections, but HydroQuebec discovered a loophole in Maine, & is exploiting it to influence Mainers on this unpopular project. In fact clear cutting many acres of wildernes reducing photosynthesis - reducing oxygen creation - removing wildlife habitat - destroying Appalachan trail, tourist attractions & nature is very un-clean. Ads paid by HydroQuebec call it "clean energy". Foreign interference is illegal in Canada. . Last year, an ad was strongly rebuked by Friends of Baxter State Park .

HydroQuebec share billions in dividends with Province of Quebec government as sole shareholder. Last year, HydroQuebec pled guilty to violating Maine's campaign law spending \$100,000 to influence Maine voters before registering as a political action committee. After facing scrutiny, HydroQuebec although treasurer and Principal Officers remain in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, changed the address of its political action committee from Montreal to Hartford, CT to disguise its origin.

While spending tens of millions of dollars to deceive Maine voters and lawmakers, HydroQuebec exposed a weakness in Maine's election law that needs to be fixed, exploited it, & set dangerous precedent.

The price of solar generated electrity will fall far below hydroelectric energy In the long run, making importation of hydropower unaffordable for consumers. If built the corridor will become unused ruining our natural wilderness because it will never be able to compete with locally generated solar power. There is no money available to remove it when that happens. Thus it will remain in the forest wetlands gathering rust.

With Best Regards,

Randall A Parr
Appleton, Maine