



Move Forward on Solar Energy That Benefits All Mainers

Help businesses, towns, and people in every corner of the state lower energy costs by increasing access to solar power and creating good-quality new jobs.

It's time to keep energy dollars in Maine's economy by giving homeowners, local business owners, and communities the ability to generate their own solar energy.

Uncertainty and inaction on solar power have put Maine in last place in New England. Now is the time to move forward.

- Investments in solar power and new solar jobs are growing quickly in the Northeast and nationwide as the costs of solar have plummeted. However, Maine lags far behind the region because we lack a clear, effective, and fair solar policy.
- Unpredictability and arbitrary barriers—like a 10-person limit on community solar farms—have held back investment in solar in Maine.
- Maine is blessed with abundant, clean, local energy resources such as solar. Removing barriers to solar power development helps keep our energy dollars in Maine, benefiting the Maine economy.



This bill will dramatically expand solar power investment in Maine communities by:

- Targeting 275 megawatts of medium-scale solar installations for communities, municipalities, and businesses.
- Dramatically increasing the possibility of community solar farms by providing widespread access to low-cost solar, including raising the current 10-person limit to 200.
- Giving businesses and municipalities the ability to overcome barriers to solar investment.
- Using competitive markets to capture low-cost solar, and building on the innovative, bipartisan policy ideas developed in recent years between Maine consumer advocates, solar businesses, and others.
- Providing long term predictability in energy costs for Maine businesses, towns, and households.

This bill will expand access to solar for all Maine people by:

- Increasing access to community solar, with specific targets and policies to assist low- and moderate-income families.
- Giving businesses multiple options—including those beyond net metering—to invest in small, medium, or large-scale solar projects to reduce energy costs.
- Allowing municipalities across Maine to invest in clean, local, renewable energy projects, lowering their energy costs, and saving taxpayers money.

**Support An Act to Benefit Maine Consumers, Businesses, and Communities
through Expanded Renewable Energy**

For more information, contact Dylan Voorhees, Natural Resources Council of Maine, 207-430-0112, dylan@nrcm.org or Beth Ahearn, Maine Conservation Alliance, 207-671-5071, beth@protectmaine.org



Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition

is a partnership of 34 environmental, conservation and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs and quality of life that our environment provides.

We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to make wise use of Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine communities can thrive.

Acadia Center	Maine People's Alliance
Appalachian Mountain Club	Maine Public Health Association
Atlantic Salmon Federation	Maine Rivers
Bicycle Coalition of Maine	Maine Wilderness Guides Organization
Conservation Law Foundation	Midcoast Conservancy
Environmental Health Strategy Center	Natural Resources Council of Maine
Environment Maine	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
Friends of Casco Bay	RESTORE: The North Woods
Islesboro Island Trust	Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
Maine Association of Conservation Commissions	Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative
Maine Audubon	The Ocean Conservancy
Maine Center for Economic Policy	The Trust for Public Land
Maine Conservation Alliance	The Wilderness Society
Maine Council of Churches	Toxics Action Center
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited	Upstream
Maine Interfaith Power & Light	350 Maine
Maine Lakes Society	
Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association	