



LD 891: An Act to Reduce Maine's Dependency on Fossil Fuels and Enhance Energy Efficient Development

Build a Clean Energy Future for Maine

Energy efficient design and development improves air quality and creates new jobs for Maine.

Maine is overly dependent on oil putting us at risk for high energy costs in the future.

- Building new infrastructure that isn't energy efficient puts Maine at risk for locking our budgets into a future of skyrocketing energy costs and more pollution for decades to come.
- Too many new developments in the private sector are not taking advantage of energy efficient and renewable technologies because:
 - Developers who do not own or operate buildings are concerned with construction costs, not the long-term operating costs for the building occupants.
 - Many landlords do not pay utility bills – the tenants do. This creates a disincentive for landlords to build highly efficient buildings.



Efficient site and building design will create jobs and reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

- More efficient buildings have higher occupancy rates and sell faster – because they are cheaper to own and operate.
- This bill will create clean energy jobs and provide additional work to retail and service providers in the emerging clean energy sector. It will also reduce dependence on foreign oil through improved efficiency and provide a boost to the economy by shifting expenditures from energy to consumer goods and services.ⁱ
- Minimizing site clearing will significantly reduce clearing costs, and incentives to build in previously developed areas will reduce the cost of new roads and utilities to service new developments.
- LD 891 will help keep energy dollars at home: Every \$1 increase in heating oil costs the Maine economy \$600 million in lost income (exported out of the region and the country).
- Saving energy will save money now.

Establishing a standard for carbon dioxide pollution puts Maine on the right track for cleaner air and a robust economy.

Climate impacts must be addressed in a comprehensive manner in Maine development practices through a simple, streamlined process that will help Maine meet its goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while creating clean energy jobs to stimulate the economy.

What LD 891 does:

- Directs DEP to develop new rules and LURC to develop recommendations to ensure that future private developments will be more energy efficient.
- Directs the state to review its policies and guidelines on fossil fuel use and carbon dioxide emissions, and report on progress towards increased savings.
- Provides a threshold standard on emissions of carbon dioxide pollution.
- Provides a mitigation option for projects that cannot directly meet the standard.
- Includes private development projects in the organized territories that cross the threshold for Site Law review. Does NOT apply to industrial processes, forestry and agricultural activities or any facility regulated under the Clean Air Act as a source of global warming pollution.

LD 891 moves Maine forward on a path to energy efficiency and smart development, helping us achieve our existing goals of reducing carbon dioxide pollution.ⁱⁱ

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Pass the Energy Efficiency Bill and Help Maine Build a Clean Energy Future

LD 891: An Act to Reduce Maine's Dependency on Fossil Fuels and Enhance Energy Efficient Development is supported by the:

Environmental Priorities Coalition

We are 26 environmental, conservation, and public health organizations who have joined together for a sixth consecutive year around a Common Environmental Agenda. We represent over 100,000 members in Maine who want to protect good health, good jobs, and the quality of life that our environment provides for all of us.

Coalition partners include:

American Lung Association in Maine
Appalachian Mountain Club
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Bicycle Coalition of Maine
Conservation Law Foundation
Environmental Health Strategy Center
Environment Maine
Environment Northeast
Friends of Casco Bay
Maine Audubon
Maine Center for Economic Policy
Maine Congress of Lake Associations
Maine Council of Churches
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited
Maine Conservation Voters Education Fund
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Maine People's Alliance
Maine Rivers
Natural Resources Council of Maine
Northern Forest Alliance
Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
RESTORE: The North Woods
Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
The Ocean Conservancy
The Wilderness Society
Toxics Action Center

References:

ⁱ A recent analysis prepared jointly by the University of Southern Maine and the University of Maine in 2008 for the Governor's Energy Summit concluded that "[I]f Maine could reduce expenditures by adopting the cost-effective measures identified for other states, businesses in the commercial (non-manufacturing) sector could save \$230 million in energy costs, while businesses in the industrial (manufacturing) sector could save up to \$129 million, for a total savings to the Maine economy of over \$450 million per year at today's energy prices and utilization rates. In terms of the potential benefits to the Maine economy, the analysis suggests that by 2020 Maine stands to create between 1,500 and 2,500 new jobs and expand Maine's GDP by between 170 and 260 million depending on overall energy prices.

ⁱⁱ 38 M.R.S.A. §578. These goals are set forth as follows:

1. Reduction by 2010. In the short term, reduction to 1990 levels by January 1, 2010;
2. Reduction by 2020. In the medium term, reduction to 10% below 1990 levels by January 1, 2020; and
3. Long-term reduction. In the long term, reduction sufficient to eliminate any dangerous threat to the climate. To accomplish this goal, reduction to 75% to 80% below 2003 levels may be required.