

## **Advance New Renewable Energy Sources**

LD 1494 will increase Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 80% by 2030.

We all benefit from made-in-Maine renewables that reduce carbon pollution, increase energy independence, and grow our economy.

#### Maine people support clean, local, renewable energy.

- Carbon pollution threatens Maine's environment and public health, resulting in poor air quality that contributes to asthma and other respiratory problems. It also causes rapidly warming and acidifying waters in the Gulf of Maine that endanger our fishing industries.
- Clean renewable energy is key to diversifying our energy mix and reducing climate pollution.
- Maine's vast clean energy resources offer cost-effective local energy at grid, community, and individual scales.
- Renewable Portfolio Standards effectively grow grid-scale renewables and complement rooftop and community solar development.



# LD 1494 will prioritize new in-state renewables—including solar, wind, and biomass heating— and grow Maine's economy.

- RPS policies have created nearly 12,000 Maine jobs and increased the state's economy by more than \$1 billion<sup>1</sup>, with very low costs to electric customers.<sup>2</sup>
- Long-term contracts for renewable generation encourage private investment and provide rate payers with long-term savings.
- Made-in-Maine renewable power generation enhances energy independence, resilience, and long-term economic growth.
- A strong RPS will promote innovation and encourage new renewable energy projects. Maine's current requirements do not encourage growth because they are being met primarily with existing resources.

## Maine is ready for collaborative climate policy.

This legislation reflects input from diverse stakeholders—including environmental and clean energy advocates and biomass, hydro, wind, and solar interests.



# Support LD 1494: An Act to Reform Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard

For more information, contact Kathleen Meil, Maine Conservation Alliance, 207-620-8811, kathleen@protectmaine.org or Dylan Voorhees, Natural Resources Council Maine, 207-430-0112, dylan@nrcm.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://www.renewablemaine.org/docs/LEI\_Study\_Summary\_by\_MREA.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://www.maine.gov/mpuc/legislative/reports.shtml



### **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

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**Environment Maine** 

Natural Resources Council of Maine

Friends of Casco Bay

Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter

Islesboro Island Trust

**RESTORE: The North Woods** 

Maine Association of Conservation Commissions

Sierra Club, Maine Chapter

Maine Audubon

Southern Maine Conservation

Collaborative

Maine Center for Economic Policy

The Ocean Conservancy

Maine Conservation Alliance

The Trust for Public Land

Maine Council of Churches

The Wilderness Society

Maine Council of Trout Unlimited

**Toxics Action Center** 

Maine Interfaith Power & Light

Upstream

Maine Lakes Society

350 Maine

Widnie Edites Societ

Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association