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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Cathy Breen, Senate Chair
Representative Teresa Pierce, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Mark Lawrence, Senate Chair
Representative Seth Berry, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

DATE: April 7, 2022

RE: Funding priority recommendations for EUT bills on Appropriations Table

Pursuant to Joint Rule 314(7), we are reporting our committee's priorities for final passage of bills reported out of our committee that are now on the Appropriations Table.

As noted in the attached memo sent by our committee analyst to our committee, EUT members were invited to rank both bills currently on the table and those that could end up on the table.

Attached are the ranking forms provided by the committee members who returned recommendations indicating their funding preferences.

Enc.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

MEMORANDUM

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
From: Lindsay J. Laxon, Legislative Analyst, OPLA
Date: April 6, 2022
Re: EUT Bills on the Appropriations Table.

The AFA Committee has requested a list of each policy committee's priorities for bills on the Appropriations Table. At this time, not all bills voted this session by EUT have received a completed fiscal analysis and not all bills with a completed fiscal analysis have yet reached the point in the process where placement on the Table might occur. Below is a list of bills for your review and prioritization based on the information that is available.

BILLS CURRENTLY ON THE TABLE

1. **LD 245, An Act Regarding Rural Water Districts** (Sen. Guerin) - reported out of EUT in 2021.
 - Unanimous OTP-A
 - Transfer from Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund: FY22 \$200,000 to DHHS.
2. **LD 551, An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State** (Rep. Kessler) - reported out of EUT in 2021.
 - Majority report OTP-A (minority report ONTP)
 - Requires one-time General Fund appropriation of \$25M in FY22 to Efficiency Maine Trust
3. **LD 1554, An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses** (Rep. Wadsworth) - reported out of EUT in 2021.
 - majority report OTP-A (minority report OTP-A)
 - Requires one-time General Fund appropriation of \$6M in FY22 to Efficiency Maine Trust
4. **LD 1555, An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure for Marginalized Groups in the State** (Rep. Talbot Ross) - reported out of EUT in 2021.
 - Majority report OTP-A (minority report ONTP)
 - Requires one-time General Fund appropriation of \$15M in FY22 to the Office of Broadband Development within the Department of Economic and Community Development

BILLS WITH FISCAL NOTES AFFECTING GENERAL FUND

5. **LD 1579, An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent Zero-emission Vehicles** (Sen. Vitelli)
 - Reported out of EUT 03/31/22, majority OTP-A (minority ONTP)
 - Fiscal Note General Fund Impact: potential future biennium cost increase
6. **LD 1634, An Act To Create the Maine Generation Authority** (Rep. Grohoski)
 - Not yet reported out of EUT, minority OTP-A (majority ONTP)
 - Fiscal Note General Fund Impact: potential future biennium revenue decrease

BILLS AWAITING FISCAL INFORMATION

7. **LD 682, An Act To Ensure the Viability of the Northern Maine Electric Transmission Grid** (Sen. Stewart)
 - Not yet reported out of EUT, unan. OTP-A report
 - Unclear at this time whether the amendment will require a fiscal note that would meet the requirements for placement on the Table.

8. LD 1959, An Act To Ensure Transmission and Distribution Utility Accountability (Sen. Brenner)

- Not yet reported out of EUT, three OTP-A reports.
- Unclear at this time whether the amendment will require a fiscal note that would meet the requirements for placement on the Table

On the next page, please rank the bills from 1-8, with 1 being the highest funding priority and 8 being the lowest. Once you have determined your rankings, please sign the chart and return to me by **10am on Thursday, April 7, 2022**. Alternatively, you may email your priorities to me at Lindsay.Laxon@legislature.maine.gov. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Laxon, Lindsay

From: Sachs, Melanie
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 9:25 AM
To: Laxon, Lindsay
Subject: Re: Policy Committee Priorities for Bills on the Appropriations Table - PLEASE RESPOND ASAP
Attachments: EUT Bill rankings MSachs.docx

Thank you, Lindsay- please let me know if you have any questions.

Warmly,

Melanie

Melanie Sachs
she/her/hers
Maine State Representative
House District 48 (Freeport/parts of Pownal)

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Please note that legislative correspondence is considered a public record and may be subject to a request under the Maine Freedom of Access Act. Information that you wish to keep confidential should not be included in email correspondence.

From: Laxon, Lindsay
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 2:02 PM
To: Legislature: Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
Subject: Policy Committee Priorities for Bills on the Appropriations Table - PLEASE RESPOND ASAP

Good afternoon, EUT,

The AFA Committee has asked each member of the Committee to submit a list indicating priorities for final passage of bills pertaining to EUT that are currently on the Special Appropriations Table. Attached is a memo providing a list of the bills on the table, those with a fiscal impact affecting the general fund, and the two for which we do not have fiscal information. We were given an extension to submit our responses (they were due Monday), but we have received fiscal notes on most of the bills, so the number is now more manageable (8).

You may return the ballot to me electronically via email. The sooner I have the ballots, the better, but please have them to me by **10am, tomorrow, April 7th**. If you prefer to print the ballot out, you may bring it to OPLA (Room 215, Cross State Office Building). If you do this, PLEASE sign your name on the ballot.

If you have any questions, please let me know.



Sincerely,

Lindsay

Lindsay J. Laxon, Esq.
Legislative Analyst
Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Maine State Legislature
(207) 287-1670



Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee Priority Rankings for Bills on Special Appropriations Table
[please number 1-8, with 1 being the highest funding priority and 8 being the lowest]

4 LD 245, An Act Regarding Rural Water Districts (Sen. Guerin)

3 LD 551, An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State (Rep. Kessler)

8 LD 1554, An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's
Energyintensive Businesses (Rep. Wadsworth)

5 LD 1555, An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure for Marginalized Groups in
the State (Rep. Talbot Ross)

2 LD 1579, An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent
Zeroemission Vehicles (Sen. Vitelli)

6 LD 1634, An Act To Create the Maine Generation Authority (Rep. Grohoski)

7 LD 682, An Act To Ensure the Viability of the Northern Maine Electric Transmission Grid
(Sen. Stewart)

1 LD 1959, An Act To Ensure Transmission and Distribution Utility Accountability (Sen.
Brenner)

Melanie Sachs Signature of Committee Member



Laxon, Lindsay

From: Grohoski, Nicole
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 11:16 PM
To: Laxon, Lindsay
Subject: Re: Policy Committee Priorities for Bills on the Appropriations Table - PLEASE RESPOND ASAP

Here are the bills I'm ranking, in order:

- 1) LD 245
- 2) LD 1634
- 3) LD 1579
- 4) LD 551

Thank you,
Nicole

Nicole Grohoski, Representative (she/her)
House Seat 132: Ellsworth and Trenton
Passamaquoddy & Penobscot Aboriginal Homeland
PO Box 1732, Ellsworth, ME 04605
207.358.8333

Please be advised that anything sent to me in my capacity as a legislator may become a matter of public record, per the Maine Freedom of Access Act, www.maine.gov/foaa/, which means that other people can ask to read these messages.

From: Laxon, Lindsay
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 2:02 PM
To: Legislature: Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
Subject: Policy Committee Priorities for Bills on the Appropriations Table - PLEASE RESPOND ASAP

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Sincerely,

Lindsay

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Legislative Analyst
Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Maine State Legislature
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**Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee
Priority Rankings for Bills on Special Appropriations Table**

[please number 1-8, with 1 being the highest funding priority and 8 being the lowest]

- 7 LD 245, An Act Regarding Rural Water Districts (Sen. Guerin)
- 3 LD 551, An Act To Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State (Rep. Kessler)
- 4 LD 1554, An Act To Provide Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses (Rep. Wadsworth)
- 5 LD 1555, An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure for Marginalized Groups in the State (Rep. Talbot Ross)
- 1 LD 1579, An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent Zero-emission Vehicles (Sen. Vitelli)
- 8 LD 1634, An Act To Create the Maine Generation Authority (Rep. Grohoski)
- 6 LD 682, An Act To Ensure the Viability of the Northern Maine Electric Transmission Grid (Sen. Stewart)
- 2 LD 1959, An Act To Ensure Transmission and Distribution Utility Accountability (Sen. Brenner)

Stewart
Signature of Committee Member

4/6/22
Date

Please return to Lindsay Laxon or you may email your rankings to Lindsay.Laxon@legislature.maine.gov

Laxon, Lindsay

From: Berry, Seth
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 3:23 PM
To: Laxon, Lindsay
Subject: Re: Policy Committee Priorities for Bills on the Appropriations Table - PLEASE RESPOND ASAP

My preferences:

1. LD 506, a Public Advocate's bill in TAX
2. LD 856, GEO funding bill to site energy projects wisely (from DACF study) in ACF
3. LD 245 (Guerin) in EUT

From: Laxon, Lindsay
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 2:02:15 PM
To: Legislature: Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
Subject: Policy Committee Priorities for Bills on the Appropriations Table - PLEASE RESPOND ASAP

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If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Lindsay

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Legislative Analyst
Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Maine State Legislature
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