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130th Legislature (2020-2022)

History and Final Disposition

LD 1708 / HP1269

An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit Utility, To Deliver Lower Rates, Reliability and Local Control for Maine Energy Independence. Presented by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham. Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. Public Hearing 05/20/21. Majority (OTP-AM) Report Accepted 06/16/21. Amended by: CA H-640, HB/CA H-738. Final Disposition: Enacted. (Veto Sustained 07/19/21).

Original Bill

[LD 1708 \(130th Legis. 2021\)](#)

Committee Materials

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

- Master file available on request—please include citation: cf130-LD-1708.pdf

[Public Hearing \(Audio File\) \(EUT\) \(05/20/2021\)](#)

[Work Session \(Audio File\) \(EUT\) \(06/01/2021\)](#)

- (Click audio link on committee page. Audio files may cover several bills.)

New Drafts and Amendments

[Amendment CA \(H-0640\) \(LD 1708 2021\) \(Passed\)](#)

[Amendment HA/CA \(H-0734\) \(LD 1708 2021\)](#)

[Amendment HB/CA \(H-0738\) \(LD 1708 2021\) \(Passed\)](#)

Floor Proceedings and Debate

[HOUSE, May 19, 2021 \(H-259-323\)](#)

p. H-312

[SENATE, May 19, 2021 \(S-472-554\)](#)

p. S-552

[HOUSE, June 15, 2021 \(H-720-776\)](#)

p. H-751 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p762)) (Amendment(s) H-640)

[SENATE, June 16, 2021 \(S-1043-1102\)](#)

p. S-1052 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p1057)) (Amendment(s) H-640)

[HOUSE, June 16, 2021 \(H-777-864\)](#)

p. H-861 (Amendment(s) H-640)

[SENATE, June 17, 2021 \(S-1103-1175\)](#)

p. S-1141 (Amendment(s) H-640)

[SENATE, June 17, 2021 \(S-1103-1175\)](#)

p. S-1146 (Roll Call(s)(p1147)) (Amendment(s) H-640)

[HOUSE, June 17, 2021 \(H-865-901\)](#)

p. H-899 (Amendment(s) H-640)

[HOUSE, June 30, 2021 \(H-902-932\)](#)

p. H-905 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p906)) (Amendment(s) H-640, H-738)

[HOUSE, June 30, 2021 \(H-902-932\)](#)

p. H-932 (Amendment(s) H-738, H-640)

[SENATE, June 30, 2021 \(S-1176-1207\)](#)

p. S-1193 (Amendment(s) H-640, H-738)

[SENATE, June 30, 2021 \(S-1176-1207\)](#)

p. S-1193 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p1196)) (Amendment(s) H-640, H-738)

[SENATE, June 30, 2021 \(S-1176-1207\)](#)

p. S-1204 (Roll Call(s)) (Amendment(s) H-738, H-640)

[HOUSE, July 19, 2021 \(H-956-990\)](#)

p. H-959

[HOUSE, July 19, 2021 \(H-956-990\)](#)

p. H-960 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p962)) (Amendment(s) H-738, H-640)

[SENATE, July 19, 2021 \(S-1246-1291\)](#)

p. S-1269

News Articles

Lawmakers consider publicly owned utility (Lori Valigra) (Bangor Daily News, 4/21/2021, p. B1, B2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation:

130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210421F.pdf)

Public power fight hinders green energy momentum (Joshua Broder) (Bangor Daily News, 5/25/2021, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation:

130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210525E.pdf)

Consumer-owned utility bill advances in Legislature (Caitlin Andrews) (Bangor Daily News, 6/2/2021, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation:

130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210602A.pdf)

Key Maine lawmaker cites 'real reservations' to utility takeover bid (Caitlin Andrews) (Bangor Daily News, 6/30/2021, p. A1, A8) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN210630C.pdf)

Maine Senate passes amended utility takeover bill (Caitlin Andrews) (Bangor Daily News, 7/2/2021, p. A1, A2) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation:

130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN210702B.pdf)

In support of a consumer-owned utility (Lydia Crafts) (Lincoln County News, 6/17/2021, p. 6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Clip21372.pdf)

Shining a light on consumer ownership of our electrical grid (Nicole Grohoski) (Ellsworth American, 5/20/2021, p. Sec. II, p. 5) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Ellsworth American 210520H.pdf)

Consumer-owned Pine Tree Power will work for Maine people (Nathan Carlow) (Portland Press Herald, 5/29/2021, p. A9) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210529D.pdf)

Committee OKs bill to create utility owned by consumers (Tux Turkel) (Portland Press Herald, 6/2/2021, p. A1, A7) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210602A.pdf)

Backers of consumer-owned power announce plan to oust CMP, Versant (Peter McGuire) (Portland Press Herald, 4/20/2021, p. A1, A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210420C.pdf)

Maine utility takeover on track to head to Gov Mills (Michael Shepherd) (Bangor Daily News, 6/17/2021, p. A1, A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210617A.pdf)

Single vote sinks bill to form utility owned by consumers (Scott Thistle) (Portland Press Herald, 6/19/2021, p. A1, A4) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210619A.pdf)

Public power would hamper climate work (Joe Wishcamper) (Bangor Daily News, 6/17/2021, p. A9) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210617F.pdf)

Profit-driven utilities not working for Maine (Jennifer Poirier) (Kennebec Journal, 6/26/2021, p. A11) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/KJ 210626A.pdf)

Pine Tree Power Company bill would honor Native peoples, future generations (Maulian Dana and Ania Wright) (Bangor Daily News, 6/26/2021, p. A11) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210626-27C.pdf)

Mayors skeptical of CMP takeover legislation (Mark Cayer, Jason Levesque, Michael Foley and David Rollins) (Sun-Journal (Lewiston), 6/27/2021, p. C7) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Sun Journal 210627B.pdf)

Getting Maine people the power we deserve (David Miramant) (Free Press, 6/22/2021, p. 3) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Free Press 210622B.pdf)

Supporters, foes weigh in on consumer utility bill (David Sharp) (Kennebec Journal, 7/9/2021, p. B2) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/KJ 210709A.pdf)

Veto won't end public power debate (Editorial) (Morning Sentinel, 7/14/2021, p. 7/14/2021) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Morning Sentinel 210714A.pdf)

Governor vetoes bill to create consumer-owned power utility (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 7/14/2021, p. A1, A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210714B.pdf)

House upholds Gov Mills' veto of measure to create consumer-owned utility (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 7/20/2021, p. B1, B8) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210720F.pdf)

Bill to create utility that's owned by consumers splits crowd (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 5/21/2021, p. A1, A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210521A.pdf)

Mills has reservations about utility measure () (Portland Press Herald, 6/3/2021, p. B2) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210603G.pdf)

Change needed to improve power system (Sam May) (Bangor Daily News, 6/4/2021, p. A11) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210604F.pdf)

Maine should learn from NY before taking over its utilities (Joseph W. McConnell) (Bangor Daily News, 6/5/2021, p. A13) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210605E.pdf)

Much could go wrong if state owned utilities (Jim Fossel) (Maine Sunday Telegram, 6/13/2021, p. D1, D4) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/MST 210613C.pdf)

Bill to curtail foreign spending meant to sway Maine referendums advances (Scott Thistle) (Portland Press Herald, 6/16/2021, p. B1, B3) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210616C.pdf)

A Pine Tree Power Company would be good for Maine (John L. Clark and Sharon A. Staz) (Bangor Daily News, 6/16/2021, p. A7) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/BDN 210616F.pdf)

Local legislators support creation of public power company (Stephen Betts) (Courier-Gazette, 6/16/2021, p. A5) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Courier-Gazette 210610A.pdf)

Senate OKs initiative to make utility owned by consumers (Scott Thistle) (Portland Press Herald, 6/17/2021, p. A1, A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210617B.pdf)

Some worry consumer utility may hurt cities (Steve Collins) (Sun-Journal (Lewiston), 6/18/2021, p. A1, A8) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/Sun Journal 210618B.pdf)

Don't put politicians in charge of our electric grid (Tom Welch, Sharon Reishus and David Littell) (Kennebec Journal, 6/18/2021, p. A11) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/KJ 210618A.pdf)

Rural power cooperative holds up well when compared to CMP (Scott M. Hallowell) (Portland Press Herald, 7/1/2021, p. A10) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210701E.pdf)

In reversal, Maine Senate backs consumer-owned utility (Kevin Miller) (Portland Press Herald, 7/1/2021, p. B1, B10) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 210701F.pdf)

Maine needs to 'go big' to meet climate goals (David Vail) (Portland Press Herald, 3/22/2022, p. A6) • (Available on request—please include the following citation: 130/LD17xx/nc130-LD-1708/PPH 220322D.pdf)

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