



Opportunity Maine's *An Act To Create Jobs Through Investment in Green Energy* (LR 1724)

What is the New Energy Jobs Initiative?

A bold, comprehensive, 10-year plan to create thousands of good-paying, nonexportable jobs, cut energy bills, address climate change, and build a prosperous economy.

Why is this a good energy and economic development strategy?

Energy efficiency is much cheaper than generated energy, creates many more jobs in communities throughout Maine, and keeps our energy dollars and the jobs they create in Maine.

How does it work?

1. Develop a streamlined, economy-wide strategy to make Maine's homes, businesses and factories 30% more energy efficient and create thousands of good jobs.
2. Re-channel a portion of the money we already spend on energy into energy efficiency and workforce investments here in Maine.
3. Consolidate programs, information & responsibility for meeting efficiency goals in an energy efficiency utility. This will maximize public transparency, accountability and effectiveness.
4. Use funds to provide a free energy audit, technical assistance and grants to residents and businesses to invest in efficiency. Prioritize low-income residents, small businesses, industrial facilities and rural areas.
5. Provide grants to individuals to gain the education and training needed for jobs in the new energy sector.
6. Provide grants to regional and community partnerships to develop green-skilled career ladders that will lift low-income and laid-off Mainers out of poverty and into family-sustaining jobs.

How will we pay for it?

- Re-channel a portion of the money we already spend on energy into energy efficiency and workforce investments here in Maine.
- Restructure Maine's energy market to prioritize cost-effective efficiency investments over generated energy.
- Leverage hundreds of millions of dollars more in federal and private investment in our homes, businesses and workforce.

How will this benefit Maine?

Create a \$300 million+ annual market for efficiency entrepreneurs and businesses and create thousands of good-paying jobs.

Increase efficiency and lower energy costs for every resident, business and factory in every region of the state.

Reduce reliance on volatile and high-priced energy and keep more of our energy dollars in Maine supporting our businesses and employing our workers.