

Weekly Advocacy Update February 18th, 2026

ENERGY, UTILITIES, & TECHNOLOGY

LD 2140 - An Act To Reduce Household Energy Costs In Response To Federal Cuts

Summary: Based on the federal energy-efficient home improvement credit that expired December 31, 2025, this bill allows a resident to claim a refundable tax credit for the cost of energy-efficient improvements made to that resident's permanent residence in Maine. These would include an energy audit, the purchase of windows and doors as well as the installation of insulation.

Implication: This bill attempts to maintain support for energy efficiency investments to spur additional consumer spending in this sector. There would be a cost to the program in the state's general fund, and a number of these measures are already covered within Efficiency Maine Trust's programs.

Upcoming Public Hearings

Thur 2/19 10:00 AM @ Cross, Room 211

LD 2203 – An Act to Limit Rates Charged to Low-income Electricity Consumers

Summary: The bill prohibits a competitive electricity provider from providing generation service to a residential electricity consumer receiving low-income assistance at a rate that is more than the standard-offer service rate.

Implications: This is a consumer protection effort to limit competitive electricity providers from providing electricity supply rates higher than the standard offer for low-income consumers. This could limit market activity in these sales and may be challenging to oversee.

LD 307 - An Act Regarding Energy, Utilities And Technology

Summary: As amended, the bill establishes a council to review the impacts of data centers; it adds tribal representation; and includes a moratorium on data centers 20mw or larger until July 2028.

Implications: Without greater representation from the business community, it risks missing important real-world information in its review and recommendations. The moratorium would also send a signal to the business community that Maine is not welcoming data center development, despite having not yet had a thorough understanding of the energy, environmental, and economic impacts of data centers.

Upcoming Work Sessions

Thur 2/19 1:00 PM @ Cross, Room 211