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**Testimony In Support of
LD 1654, “An Act to Extend the Time for Certain Public Utilities Commission
Proceedings”**
April 26, 2023

Senator Lawrence, Representative Zeigler and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Technology,

My name is William Harwood, here today as Public Advocate, to testify in support of LD 1654, “An Act to Extend the Time for Certain Public Utilities Commission Proceedings.”

The OPA supports the time extensions proposed in LD 1654. Over the past few years, major PUC cases have become more complicated, attracted more intervenors, and required more resources. As a result, the time limits that were set many decades ago are no longer sufficient. The OPA believes that taking a few extra weeks to get it right for certain cases will best serve the Maine ratepayers.

Thank you for your time, attention, and consideration of this testimony. The Office of the Public Advocate looks forward to working with the Committee on LD 1654 and will be available for the work session to assist the Committee in its consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

William S. Harwood
Public Advocate