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**Testimony Neither for nor Against
LD 1850, “An Act Relating to Energy Storage and the State's Energy Goals”
May 16, 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 neither for nor against LD 1850, “An Act Relating to Energy Storage and the State's Energy Goals.”

OPA understands and supports the need for further study of how best to incorporate battery storage into our electricity supply and delivery operations. However, the research and study need to carefully consider the rate impact of the alternative strategies. Specifically, OPA proposes that the bill be amended to require that rate impacts be considered in studying storage.

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 1850 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