

Resolve 11-09/10

Passage: 2/17/10 6-0 (Donoghue, Anton, Skolnik absent)

NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (MAYOR)

KEVIN J. DONOGHUE (1)

DAVID A. MARSHALL (2)

DANIEL S. SKOLNIK (3)

CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)

CITY OF PORTLAND

IN THE CITY COUNCIL

JOHN R. COYNE (5)

JOHN M. ANTON (A/L)

DORY RICHARDS WAXMAN (A/L)

JILL C. DUSON (A/L)

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF LD1717, AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AFFORDABILITY OF CLEAN ENERGY FOR HOMEOWNERS AND BUSINESS

WHEREAS, approximately \$70 million in funding is available to Maine for a limited time under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to help provide clean energy improvements on certain properties; and

WHEREAS, residents of Portland have seen their heating costs rise significantly over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland has many older buildings that would benefit from clean energy improvements such as weatherization, upgrading heating systems, installing solar panels or other non-fossil fuel energy systems; and

WHEREAS, many property owners in the City of Portland require financing to implement weatherization and clean energy improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland supports helping Portland property owners weatherize their buildings and install clean energy improvements; and

WHEREAS, other states have adopted programs known as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, LD1717 would allow but not require a municipality, on its own or through agreement with private lenders or other Agencies, including Efficiency Maine, to establish a PACE financing program; and

WHEREAS, programs established under LD1717 would be funded exclusively by federal funds or, at the option of the municipality, with local funds or a combination of both;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council strongly supports LD 1717, An Act to Increase the Affordability of Clean Energy for Homeowners and Businesses, and encourages the Maine State Senate and the Maine State House of Representatives to pass it and Governor Baldacci to sign it into law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk shall send a certified copy of this resolution forthwith to the City's Legislative delegation and to the Honorable John Baldacci, Governor of the State of Maine.