

# Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

*Joshua Schauer 271-3077*

HB 1718-FN, relative to authorizing energy storage in connection with net metering.

**Hearing Date:** April 9, 2026

**Time Opened:** 2:02 p.m.

**Time Closed:** 2:12 p.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Avard, Pearl, McConkey, Watters and Rosenwald

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill adds rulemaking authority for the department of energy regarding customer energy storage systems, updates terminology, and authorizes the PUC to set compensation terms for energy storage exports charged solely from renewable sources.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. Vose

Rep. Cormen

Rep. Bernardy

Rep. Harrington

Rep. Mattson

Rep. McGhee

Rep. Schneller

Rep. D. Thomas

Sen. Pearl

Sen. Watters

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**Who supports the bill:** 23 Individuals signed in Support of the Legislation. Please Contact [Joshua.Schauer@gc.nh.gov](mailto:Joshua.Schauer@gc.nh.gov) for more information.

**Who opposes the bill:** None

**Who is neutral on the bill:** 1 Individual signed Neutral on the Legislation. Please Contact [Joshua.Schauer@gc.nh.gov](mailto:Joshua.Schauer@gc.nh.gov) for more information.

**Summary of testimony presented:**

**Representative Michael Vose**

- Rep Vose introduced the bill as the prime sponsor of the legislation. He said that the proposed legislation would allow customer generators to earn net metering credits when exporting energy to the grid from a battery.
- He briefly spoke about the technical issues that were resolved when drafting the legislation. He stated they worked on a definition for “energy storage”
- He mentioned that there were some questions over rule-making authority

between the department of energy and the public utilities commission.

- He stated that this legislation does nothing to alter the core principles of net metering. He stated that the bill passed the House committee unanimously and was received well.

### **Denna Dennis, CPCNH**

- Ms. Dennis was in support of the legislation. She stated that this puts into statute how energy is used in the real world. She stated that the legislation was a practical clarification.
- She stated that this legislation was the result of careful negotiation. When crafting the bill, they were careful not to restrict uses accidentally.
- She stated that the legislation allows for energy to be used when it is needed most. She also stated that it improves resiliency by allowing power to be stored before a storm hits.
- She stated that this is a good step forward in modernizing the energy sharing system in NH.

### **Sam Evans-Brown, Clean Energy NH**

- Mr. Evans-Brown was in support of the bill. He stated that this is modest step forward. He stated that in the last net metering docket, this was a matter of active debate.
- He stated the participants in the debate wanted to encourage battery storage within solar energy production. He stated there was a question of if battery storage would be allowed within net metering.
- He stated that Liberty Utilities has already allowed battery storage to be apart of their shared energy program. He stated he believed that this was the future of net metering and they need to allow it before its adopted.

### **Josh Elliot, Department of Energy**

- Mr. Elliot stated that the Department of Energy was neutral on the legislation.
- He stated that there was only one issue that they had with the bill. He stated that in the proposed legislation there is a section that refers to “the commission” when it should have read “the department”. He proposed an amendment that would change “commission” to “department”