

OPPOSE HB 224 FN

Dear Representative,

Please oppose HB 224. Although it appears to benefit retail customers, it is a short sighted solution with limited benefits to the ratepayers.

REFs exist to incentivize renewable energies, which in turn, makes NH more energy independent and ideally, will reduce future bills.

Refunding these dollars across the rate paying public will do little to improve economic stress, and more importantly, acts contrary to what REFs should be doing.

Instead, one wonders why the DOE has not done a better job of promoting energy efficient projects.

This bill does little to serve the public. Oppose it.

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According to The Nature Conservancy, the REF “has been utilized to fund nearly 10,000 rebates for renewable energy systems to New Hampshire homeowners, businesses, schools, towns, non-profit organizations, and other eligible entities.” This bill would instead use those REF funds for insignificant, short-term savings on energy bills. The real question is why the Dept of Energy allowed over \$20M of funds to accumulate rather than spend them on the energy projects they were intended for, which reduce energy bills and increase energy independence for communities throughout the state. **Priority OPPOSE**