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# KNOXDEMS

## KNOX COUNTY MAINE DEMOCRATS

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### KNOX COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER MARCH 1, 2023 (No. 11)

#### March 14, 2023 - Plan to Attend the Knox County Legislators' Update



KCDC is hosting Knox County legislators on March 14, 2023 at the Rockport Masonic Center at 6:00 PM. This is a great opportunity for the community to hear about our legislators' observations, focus, and top priorities so far in the current legislative session. This update will be followed by a short question and answer session.

We have invited all members of the Maine House of Representatives and State

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and Rockport) and Ann Matlack (District 43 representing Cushing, part of Owls Head, St. George, Thomason, and South Thomaston) have indicated their participation.

All Knox County residents are invited to attend this session with our legislators. Mask wearing is optional. The details are:

WHAT: Knox County Legislators Update

DATE: Tuesday, March 14, 2023

TIME: 6:00 PM

WHERE: Rockport Masonic Center  
361 Main St.  
Rockport, ME 04856

This event will substitute for the March 2023 business meeting.

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## Focus on the November Ballot



A number of questions will appear on the November, 2023 ballot that promise to create great debate, possible voter confusion, and inundate the airwaves with ads on both sides. In the interest of helping our readers gain some background information, in this issue we focus on the citizen's initiative entitled "An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility", which aims to establish a consumer-owned utility and buy out Central Maine Power (CMP) and Versant Power.

CMP has backed a related measure "An Act To Require Voter Approval of Certain Borrowing by Government-controlled Entities and Utilities and To Provide Voters More Information Regarding that Borrowing", informally known as "No Blank Checks" which aims to hinder the Pine Tree Power initiative by

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means an exhaustive list, but will, we believe, serve as a place to start for what will be a high-profile, expensive campaign by forces both for and against these measures.

**Text and Summaries:**

*Pine Tree Power:* <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/citizens/Pine%20Tree%20Power%20Petition.pdf>

*Draft Ballot Question:*  
<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/citizens/PublicCommentPineTreePower.html>

*No Blank Checks:*  
<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/citizens/VoterApprovalBorrowingFINAL11.10.pdf>

**Background Media Articles:**

“What Does the Pine Tree Power Plan to Replace CMP and Versant Have to Do With Climate Change?”  
<https://www.themainemonitor.org/what-does-the-pine-tree-power-plan-to-replace-cmp-and-versant-have-to-do-with-climate-change/>

“Get Ready, Get Set for Bruising Referendum Campaigns in 2023”  
<https://www.themainemonitor.org/get-ready-get-set-for-bruising-referendum-campaigns-in-2023/>

**Maine Secretary of State Resources:**

Citizen Initiative Petitions Currently Approved for Circulation (including legislation and draft question language, if available):  
<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/citizens/index.html>

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