

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 386

H. P. 296

House of Representatives, February 7, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Sent up for concurrence and 1,800 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Huber of Falmouth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Establish a Solar Water Heater Demonstration Program for Maine
Small Businesses.**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1979-80

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Office of Energy Resources

All Other

\$16,000

Funds to be used to implement a solar water heater demonstration program, in accordance with Title 5, section 5005, subsection 1, paragraph G. The fund provides for the administration of 40 or more grants of \$400 each to qualified applicants for the installation of solar water heating systems. The Director of the Office of Energy Resources shall provide grants to small businesses that demonstrate intent to install solar water systems and that meet any other qualifications deemed necessary by the Office of Energy Resources. No person, firm or institution shall be eligible for more than one \$400 grant.

In the event that other public or private moneys become available to establish such a solar water heater demonstration program, they shall be used to expand the program.

The receipt of a demonstration grant shall not keep an applicant from applying for and receiving any tax credit he may be eligible for under federal or state law on the remainder of the cost of the installed solar water heater over the amount of the grant.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is to encourage alternate sources of energy by means of promoting the installation of solar water heating systems in Maine. This bill will provide a \$400 grant to small businesses which show intent and demonstrate the ability to install solar water heating systems.

The purpose of this bill is to also ensure that existing tax credits will be available to those installing solar water heaters under Maine's solar water heater demonstration program.