MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Filing No. S-369

STATE OF MAINE SENATE 110TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT " $_{\rm C}$ " to S.P. 654, L.D. 1679, Bill, "AN ACT to Remove the Customer Charge from Electric Utility Rate Structures."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'35 MRSA §96, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 539, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§96. Minimum charge

- 1. Companies required to provide minimum charge. Any electric company serving more than 5000 customers which has in effect for residential customers a flat rate combining energy and demand charges shall recover its customer costs through the same rate.

 As part of that rate, each such electric company shall provide for a minimum charge to include such an amount of kilowatt hours as the commission shall determine.
- 2. Institution of minimum charge. The minimum charge required by this section shall be instituted not later than the date of the first residential rate order adopted with respect to the company after the effective date of this section. For any such company which applies a flat rate for residential customers when this section becomes effective, the commission shall order that the minimum charge be instituted no later than 30 days thereafter.

3. Billing of minimum charge. The minimum charge shall be billed to the customer in such manner that all charges to the customer for residential service shall appear on the bill as a single item.

This requirement does not prohibit separate information concerning the fuel cost adjustment, as defined in section 131, from appearing on the statement.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment removes the family farm rate, makes the bill apply to all electric companies serving more than 5,000 customers and allows the commission to determine the number of kilowatt hours in the minimum charge.

(Trotzky)

COUNTY: Penobscot

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