

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1930

H. P. 1957 House of Representatives, February 9, 1982
Filed by the Joint Standing Committee on Public Utilities under
Joint Rule 18 approved by the Legislative Council June 4, 1981.
Reported by Representative McGowan from the Committee on
Public Utilities and 1,600 ordered printed under Joint Rule No. 18.
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO

JOINT RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF ADDITIONAL
NATURAL GAS SUPPLIES FOR THE STATE OF
MAINE.

WHEREAS, natural gas is a clean, efficient fossil fuel that can be an attractive alternative to oil or electricity, frequently at lower cost; and

WHEREAS, Maine gets less than 1% of its energy supply from natural gas, compared to 9% in the New England region and 26% in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, the New England States Pipeline Project is proposed to run from the New Brunswick border near Calais, through Maine to Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, this new international and interstate pipeline presents an opportunity for Maine to become fully tied into the interstate pipeline system, and to receive significantly more natural gas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Members of the 110th Legislature now assembled in Second Regular Session declare that construction of the proposed New England States Pipeline is in the best interest of the people of the State of Maine, provided that a fair share of the natural gas is allocated to the State, that taps are installed at various reasonable locations, that a fair pricing schedule is established for the gas and its transportation and that the route is well chosen from an environmental and an economic standpoint; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Office of Energy Resources and the Public Utilities Commission are authorized to negotiate with the principal parties and intervene before appropriate federal agencies to support the interest stated in this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the State Development Office, with the assistance of other appropriate agencies and public and private organizations may ensure that an adequate market survey is prepared by March 1, 1982 for potential major natural gas users within distances of 5 miles, 10 miles and 20 miles of the proposed route including Sanford, Augusta, Waterville, Sears Island, Bangor and Calais; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Joint Standing Committee on Public Utilities shall consider Natural Gas Pipelines, Title 35, chapter 181, as well as those parts of chapters 171 and 173 dealing with gas, and report to the Legislature before March 15, 1982, on any need to amend that chapter in order to further the best interests of the State with respect to transmission, distribution and supply of natural gas. The committee report shall include any proposed legislation for consideration at the Second Regular Session of the 110th Legislature, and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution be transmitted forthwith to the Office of Energy Resources, the State Development Office and the Public Utilities Commission as notice of the legislative intent.