

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2397

DATE: 3-8-00

(Filing No. H- 856)

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1691, L.D. 2397, Bill, "An Act to Expand the Opportunities for State Companies to Provide Distributed Electric Generation Services"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Require an Examination of Distributed Generation'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Examination of distributed generation. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission shall undertake an examination of the issues related to existence and likely spread of the availability and use of local electric generation designed to serve the electrical demands of a single person or a small group of persons within a localized geographic area, referred to in this resolve as "distributed generation." The commission shall examine at least the following:

1. The nature of distributed generation technologies currently available and those in development;

2. Potential impacts on transmission and distribution utilities and their customers;

3. System planning impacts both in the short and long term;

4. The extent to which current law authorizes, limits and affects the use of distributed generation;

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2 5. Safety issues raised by interconnection of distributed
generation to transmission and distribution systems; and

4 6. Policy issues and options related to the following:

6 A. Use of distributed generation by transmission and
8 distribution utilities in lieu of line extensions;

10 B. Use of competitive pricing for distribution services;

12 C. Allowing transmission and distribution utilities or
14 affiliates of transmission and distribution utilities to be
directly involved in the distributed generation business;

16 D. Appropriateness of standby rates and station service
rates for customers using distributed generation;

18 E. Use of net billing and metering arrangements; and

20 F. Regulation of interconnection; and be it further

22 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities
24 Commission shall issue a report to the joint standing committee
of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy
26 matters no later than October 1, 2001 of its findings and
recommendations resulting from its examination pursuant to
28 section one of this resolve; and be it further

30 **Sec. 3. Authority to report legislation. Resolved:** That the joint
standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
32 utilities and energy matters may report out legislation on
distributed generation to the First Regular Session or the Second
34 Regular Session of the 120th Legislature after receiving the
final report of the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to
36 section 2 of this resolve.'

38 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

40 **FISCAL NOTE**

42 The Public Utilities Commission will incur some minor
44 additional costs to study distributed generation and its effects
on the electric industry and consumers and to submit the required
46 report. These costs can be absorbed within the commission's
existing budgeted resources.'

50 **SUMMARY**

52 This amendment makes the bill a resolve and replaces the

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2 title to reflect the content of the amendment. This amendment
directs the Public Utilities Commission to undertake an
4 examination of distributed generation and its effects on the
electric industry and consumers. The commission is directed to
6 issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the joint
standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
utilities and energy matters not later than October 1, 2001. The
8 committee is authorized to report out legislation on distributed
generation in response to the report of the commission.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT