

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1697, L.D. 2403, Bill, "An Act to Delay the Start-up Date for Implementing Electric Metering and Billing Competition"

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

'An Act Regarding Electric Metering and Billing Competition'

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

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3202, sub-§4, as amended by PL 1999, c. 398, Pt. D, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4. Electric billing and metering services. The commission by rule may provide for competition in the provision of electric billing and metering services. The commission in its rules shall establish terms and conditions for such competition including which services are subject to competition and which customers will receive competitive services.

If the commission provides for competition for any billing or metering services, the commission shall:

A. Establish in its rules minimum standards necessary to protect consumers of such services and codes of conduct governing the relationship among transmission and distribution utilities providing such services, any affiliates of transmission and distribution utilities

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providing such services and providers of such services that are not affiliated with a transmission and distribution utility; and

B. Determine each transmission and distribution utility's costs of providing such services as reflected in consumer rates, including capital costs, depreciation, operating expenses and taxes, and shall separate this portion of the consumer rate into a separate charge.

Rules adopted under this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and accomplishes the following:

- 1. Changes the title to reflect the content of the amendment;
- 2. Removes the dates currently governing the establishment of competitive electric billing and metering services;
- 3. Provides that the Public Utilities Commission is authorized to provide for competition in the provision of electric billing and metering services through the adoption of major substantive rules;
- 4. Requires the commission to establish terms and conditions for such competition including which services are subject to competition and which customers will receive competitive services; and
- 5. Preserves those portions of current law governing consumer protections and the unbundling from transmission and distribution utility rates of the charges associated with any billing and metering services that are made subject to competition.