

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 805

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DATE: 5-9-03

(Filing No. S-133)

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

Reported by: *Majority*

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 284, L.D. 805, Bill, "An Act To Create a Sustainable Energy Trust Fund"

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

'An Act To Protect Conservation Trust Funds'

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 §3211-A, sub-§4, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 624, §4, is amended to read:

C. Are Except as provided in subsection 7-A, are no less than 0.5% of the total transmission and distribution revenues of the transmission and distribution utility; and

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3211-A, sub-§7-A is enacted to read:

7-A. Funds held in trust. All funds collected from electricity consumers pursuant to this section, including assessments collected from transmission and distribution utilities and deposited in the program fund or the administration fund and any prior conservation efforts, are collected under the authority and for the purposes of this section and, whether held by the commission, transmission and distribution utilities or their agents, are deemed to be held in trust for the purposes of benefiting electricity consumers. In the event funds are not

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 284, L.D. 805

2 expended or contracted for expenditure within 2 years of being
3 collected from consumers, the commission shall return the value
4 of those funds to consumers by appropriate reductions in the
5 assessment collected pursuant to subsection 4.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy, replaces the bill and changes the title to reflect the changes to the bill. This amendment deems funds collected from electricity consumers pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-A to be held in trust for the purposes of benefiting electricity consumers. In the event these funds are not expended or contracted for expenditure within 2 years of being collected from consumers, the Public Utilities Commission is directed to return the value of those funds to consumers by reducing the assessment it collects from transmission and distribution utilities pursuant to Title 35-A, section 3211-A.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Approved: 05/06/03 *MAC*

**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**

LD 805

An Act to Protect Conservation Trust Funds



LR 1683(02)

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *Aⁿ S-133*

Committee: Utilities and Energy

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Majority

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium savings - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to reduce funds collected from electric consumers including assessments collected from transmission and distribution utilities for conservation programs in the event that funds are not expended within 2 years of being collected.