

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R.O.S.

L.D. 1897

DATE: 4/5/6

(Filing No. H-959)

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
122ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1338, L.D. 1897, Bill, "An Act To Protect Maine's Electricity Consumers"

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

'Resolve, To Direct the Public Utilities Commission To Examine Continued Participation by Transmission and Distribution Utilities in This State in the New England Regional Transmission Organization'

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

'Sec. 1. Public Utilities Commission to examine continued participation by transmission and distribution utilities in New England regional transmission organization. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission shall undertake an inquiry to determine the legal options for and costs and benefits of directing or otherwise causing transmission and distribution utilities in this State to withdraw from the New England regional transmission organization. The Public Utilities Commission must examine other reasonable options for providing for the functions currently provided by the New England regional transmission organization. The commission may, as the commission determines appropriate, explore any options involving Canadian governments, agencies or other authorities. The commission also may, as the commission determines appropriate, explore any options involving other states, governments or agencies within the United States. The commission shall conduct the inquiry in accordance with commission rules governing inquiries, except that the sole

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2 purpose of the inquiry is to produce findings and recommendations
3 for consideration by the joint standing committee of the
4 Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy
5 matters. The Legislature retains final authority to make policy
6 decisions on the subject matter of this resolve based on any
7 recommendations of the joint standing committee of the
8 Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy
9 matters; and be it further

10 **Sec. 2. Reports. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities
11 Commission shall issue an interim report on the status of its
12 inquiry pursuant to section 1 and any preliminary findings and
13 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
14 Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters
15 by January 1, 2007. The joint standing committee may request
16 additional interim reports from the commission as the joint
17 standing committee determines appropriate. The commission shall
18 issue a final report of its findings and recommendations to the
19 joint standing committee by January 1, 2008.

20 The joint standing committee of the Legislature having
21 jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters may report out
22 legislation on the subject matter of this resolve to the First
23 Regular Session or the Second Regular Session of the 123rd
24 Legislature; and be it further

25 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the
26 following appropriations and allocations are made.

30 **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

32 **Public Utilities - Administrative Division 0184**

34 Initiative: Allocates funds for one limited-period Utility
35 Analyst position, required contractual services and general
36 operating expenses to carry out the purposes of this Act. This
37 limited-period position will end no later than January 2, 2008.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2005-06	2006-07
Personal Services	\$0	\$94,070
All Other	\$0	\$123,394
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$217,464'

46 **SUMMARY**

48 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The
49 resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to undertake an
50 inquiry to determine the legal options for and costs and benefits

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2 of directing or otherwise causing transmission and distribution
utilities in this State to withdraw from the New England regional
transmission organization. The commission is directed to issue
4 an interim report on the status of its inquiry and any
preliminary findings and recommendations to the joint standing
6 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities
and energy matters by January 1, 2007. The joint standing
8 committee is authorized to request additional interim reports
from the commission as the committee determines appropriate. The
10 commission is directed to issue a final report of its findings
and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities
12 and Energy by January 1, 2008. The amendment also adds an
appropriations and allocations section to the bill.
14

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1897

LR 2958(02)

An Act To Protect Maine's Electricity Consumers

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Utilities and Energy

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	2005-06	2006-07	Projections 2007-08	Projections 2008-09
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$217,464	\$115,501	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This legislation includes an Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the Public Utilities Commission of \$217,464 in fiscal year 2006-07 and will require a projected allocation of \$115,501 in fiscal year 2007-08 to provide funds for one limited-period Utility Analyst position, required contractual services and general operating expenses to carry out the purposes of this act. The Public Utilities Commission has resources available to fund the allocation.