

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 134

S.P. 42

In Senate, January 9, 2007

An Act To Encourage the Use of Solar Energy

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative BLISS of South Portland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3211-C, sub-§2, ¶B**, as reallocated by RR 2005, c. 1, §17,
3 is amended to read:

4 B. A solar thermal system designed to heat water qualifies for a rebate ~~of 25% of~~
5 ~~the cost of the system, including installation, or \$1,250, whichever is less,~~ if the
6 system is installed by a licensed plumber who has been certified by the commission
7 to install such systems or by a licensed plumber working in conjunction with a person
8 who has been certified by the commission to install such systems. The commission
9 shall set rebate levels for solar thermal systems designed to heat water. In setting the
10 rebate levels under this paragraph, the commission may consider market demand for
11 those products and program implementation experience.

12 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3211-C, sub-§2, ¶C**, as reallocated by RR 2005, c. 1, §17,
13 is amended to read:

14 C. A solar thermal system designed to heat air qualifies for a rebate ~~of 25% of the~~
15 ~~cost of the system, including installation, or \$1,250, whichever is less.~~ The
16 commission shall set rebate levels for solar thermal systems designed to heat air. In
17 setting the rebate levels under this paragraph, the commission may consider market
18 demand for those products and program implementation experience.

19

SUMMARY

20 Current law provides for a rebate of 25% of the cost of a solar thermal system or
21 \$1,250, whichever is less. This bill gives the Public Utilities Commission discretion to
22 set rebate levels for solar thermal systems.