

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2 Date: 4/12/07

L.D. 813
(Filing No. H-89)

3 **UTILITIES AND ENERGY**

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5 **STATE OF MAINE**
6 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
7 **123RD LEGISLATURE**
8 **FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

9 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 613, L.D. 813, Bill, "An Act To
10 Provide an Energy Allowance to At-home Patients Using Ventilators"

11 Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

12 'Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §3214, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

13 **6. Annual report.** The commission shall report by November 1st of each year to the
14 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy
15 matters on low-income assistance programs established or approved under subsection 2
16 or 3 and any equitable-treatment program established pursuant to subsection 5. The
17 report must, at a minimum, include:

18 A. For each month of the program year, the number of participants enrolled in low-
19 income assistance programs, the number receiving oxygen pump benefits and the
20 number receiving ventilator benefits;

21 B. For each month of the program year, the dollar amount of low-income assistance
22 program benefits, the dollar amount of oxygen pump benefits and the dollar amount
23 of ventilator benefits; and

24 C. An assessment of the effectiveness of the oxygen pump benefit and the ventilator
25 benefit with regard to covering only those electric charges directly related to use of
26 an oxygen pump or ventilator by the program participant.

27 **Sec. 4. Report; medical devices under equitable-treatment program.** The
28 Public Utilities Commission shall examine medical devices that may be appropriate for
29 inclusion in the equitable-treatment program established pursuant to the Maine Revised
30 Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3214. For each medical device examined, the commission
31 shall assess its electricity requirements and typical usage patterns and gather data on the
32 number of residential electricity customers and low-income program participants
33 currently using the device. The commission shall report its findings to the Joint Standing
34 Committee on Utilities and Energy no later than January 15, 2008.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 613, L.D. 813

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SUMMARY

This amendment adds a provision to the bill to require the Public Utilities Commission to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters on the low-income assistance programs for residential electricity consumers and the equitable-treatment program for low-income program participants who require an oxygen pump or ventilator for at least 8 hours each day. The amendment also requires the commission to examine medical devices that may be appropriate for inclusion in the equitable-treatment program and report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy no later than January 15, 2008.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 813

LR 1711(02)

An Act To Provide an Energy Allowance to At-home Patients Using Ventilators

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

Committee: Utilities and Energy

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The additional costs associated with this legislation can be absorbed by the Public Utilities Commission utilizing existing budgeted resources.