

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 1048

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S.P. 308

In Senate, February 28, 2019

### **An Act To Encourage Conservation in Determining Natural Gas Rates**

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Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SANBORN, H. of Cumberland. (BY REQUEST)  
Cosponsored by Representative COLLINGS of Portland and  
Senators: FOLEY of York, LAWRENCE of York, WOODSOME of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §301, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 506, §1, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Determining rates.** In determining just and reasonable rates, the commission:

5 A. Shall provide such revenues to the utility as may be required to perform its public  
6 service and to attract necessary capital on just and reasonable terms; ~~and~~

7 B. Shall, to a level within the commission's discretion, consider whether the utility is  
8 operating as efficiently as possible and is utilizing sound management practices,  
9 including the treatment in rates of executive compensation; ~~and~~

10 C. Shall, when determining natural gas rates and rate structures for a gas utility,  
11 consider the effect of rates and rate structures on energy conservation, including, but  
12 not limited to, financial incentives for customers to reduce natural gas consumption.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission, in determining rates and rate  
15 structures for natural gas utilities, to consider energy conservation and financial  
16 incentives for customers to reduce natural gas consumption.