

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1464

Date: 6/5/19 Majority (Filing No. H-477)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1071, L.D. 1464, Bill, "An Act To Support Electrification of Certain Technologies for the Benefit of Maine Consumers and Utility Systems and the Environment"

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 3-A (page 1, lines 3 to 6 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'3-A. Beneficial electrification. "Beneficial electrification" means electrification of a technology that results in reduction in the use of a fossil fuel, including electrification of a technology that would otherwise require energy from a fossil fuel, and that provides a benefit to a utility, a ratepayer or the environment, without causing harm to utilities, ratepayers or the environment, by improving the efficiency of the electricity grid or reducing consumer costs or emissions, including carbon emissions.'

Amend the bill in section 4 by striking out all of the first paragraph (page 1, lines 25 to 39 and page 2, lines 1 to 4 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Sec. 4. Efficiency Maine Trust to study barriers to beneficial electrification. The Efficiency Maine Trust established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10103, in consultation with stakeholders, shall study barriers to beneficial electrification in the transportation and heating sectors in the State. The study must identify social, technological, legal, regulatory and economic barriers to beneficial electrification for the transportation and heating sectors in the State. The study must include information on potential roles for electric utilities, natural gas utilities and competitive markets in supporting beneficial electrification, including benefits and drawbacks of these potential roles and examples of specific activities that may be conducted and specific needs that may be best served by the electric utilities, natural gas utilities or competitive markets. At the request of the trust, the Public Utilities Commission shall order electric and natural gas utilities to provide information requested by the trust to carry out the study. The Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority shall provide information to the trust on potential barriers to beneficial electrification and solutions to overcome those barriers in areas under their jurisdiction. The trust may seek information regarding the study from other agencies or

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 from private persons, organizations or interest groups. The trust shall provide public
2 notice of the opportunity for the public to submit written information or comments to the
3 trust before and after a draft of the study is completed. The trust shall develop a report
4 based on the study. The report must:'

5 Amend the bill in section 4 by striking out all of the last indented paragraph (page 2,
6 lines 18 to 21 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

7 'For purposes of this section, "beneficial electrification" has the same meaning as in
8 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10102, subsection 3-A.'

9 Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 1 in the 2nd and 3rd lines (page 2, lines 30
10 and 31 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "February 1, 2020 and must consider and
11 implement the analysis and recommendations of the study conducted under section 4"
12 and inserting the following: 'December 1, 2019'

13 Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 1 by striking out all of the blocked
14 paragraph (page 3, lines 7 to 9 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

15 'The commission shall require that a synopsis of the proposal that is suitable for public
16 review and comment be submitted along with a proposal submitted under this section and
17 shall allow public review of and comment on the synopsis. In its review of proposals, the
18 commission shall consider whether and to what extent a proposal may duplicate related
19 efforts currently being undertaken by the Efficiency Maine Trust. On or before March 1,
20 2020, the commission shall select one or more pilot program proposals submitted under
21 this section that it finds are reasonably expected to result in information and data that
22 would meaningfully inform future efforts regarding beneficial electrification. The
23 commission may impose limitations on the duration, scope or cost of a pilot program
24 proposal and require modifications of a proposal prior to approval.'

25 Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 2 in the 4th line (page 3, line 13 in L.D.) by
26 striking out the following: "December 1, 2020" and inserting the following: 'January 1,
27 2021'

28 Amend the bill in section 5 by striking out all of subsection 4 (page 3, lines 23 to 26
29 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

30 '4. For purposes of this section, "beneficial electrification" has the same meaning as
31 in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10102, subsection 3-A.'

32 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
33 section number to read consecutively.

34 **SUMMARY**

35 This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

36 1. It clarifies the definition of "beneficial electrification."

37 2. It clarifies that the Efficiency Maine Trust must conduct the study of barriers to
38 beneficial electrification in consultation with stakeholders, rather than in coordination
39 with the Public Utilities Commission, and specifies that the commission is required to
40 facilitate the trust's access to information the trust requests from electric and gas utilities.



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1464

LR 1860(02)

An Act To Support Electrification of Certain Technologies for the Benefit of Maine Consumers and Utility Systems and the Environment

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

A(H-477)

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Highway Fund
Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds
Minor cost increase - Maine Turnpike Authority

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Efficiency Maine Trust to direct and report back on a study of barriers to beneficial electrification and to the Public Utilities Commission, the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority associated with providing information to the trust are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.