

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2020

Legislative Document

No. 1853

H.P. 1324

House of Representatives, December 23, 2019

An Act To Prohibit Door-to-door Marketing of Retail Energy Supply

Submitted by the Office of the Public Advocate pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 19, 2019. Referred to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3203, sub-§4-B**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 74, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 **4-B. Residential consumer protections.** As a condition of licensing, a competitive
5 electricity provider that provides or proposes to provide generation service to a residential
6 consumer:

7 A. Shall disclose, before entering into an agreement to provide service to a
8 residential consumer, to the residential consumer where the residential consumer can
9 obtain information with which to compare the service provided by the competitive
10 electricity provider and the standard-offer service;

11 B. May not renew a contract for generation service without providing a residential
12 consumer with notice of renewal in advance by mail;

13 C. May not renew a contract for generation service at a fixed rate that is 20% or
14 more above the contract rate in the expiring contract without the express consent of
15 the residential consumer;

16 D. May not renew a contract for generation service for a term that is longer than the
17 term of the expiring contract or 12 months, whichever is shorter, without the express
18 consent of the residential consumer; ~~and~~

19 E. May not impose an early termination fee for any contract for generation service
20 that was renewed without express consent from the residential consumer; and

21 F. May not solicit residential consumers using door-to-door sales practices.

22 If a residential consumer does not provide the express consent required by paragraphs C
23 and D, the residential consumer must be transferred to standard-offer service. If a
24 competitive electricity provider violates paragraph F, in addition to any other remedies
25 that the commission may impose, the commission shall suspend the competitive
26 electricity provider's license to operate for a period of no less than one year and the
27 competitive electricity provider shall refund to all residential consumers contracted with
28 that competitive electricity provider any amount paid for retail energy service in excess of
29 the price of standard-offer service since the competitive electricity provider's
30 commencement of door-to-door sales practices.

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill prohibits door-to-door sales practices directed at residential consumers by
33 competitive electricity providers.