

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 568

S.P. 248

In Senate, February 25, 2025

**An Act to Modify the Process for Standard-offer Contracts with the
Public Utilities Commission**

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on February 19, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 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 HARRINGTON of York.
Cosponsored by Senator: STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives: PAUL of Winterport,
WARREN of Scarborough.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRS §3212, sub-§2, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 316, §3, is
3 amended to read:

4 B. ~~The commission shall establish the maximum duration of a standard-offer service~~
5 ~~contract after considering is 6 months. In choosing a standard-offer service provider,~~
6 the commission shall consider all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, market
7 risks and the need for price stability and contract flexibility. If at the expiration of a
8 contract the commission rejects all bids submitted for a new contract, the expiring
9 contract must continue until the commission accepts a bid for a new contract. If at the
10 expiration of a contract the standard-offer service provider submits a bid that increases
11 the rate for electricity that was offered in the expiring contract, the provider must
12 include justification for the rate increase.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 This bill limits standard-offer electricity service provider contracts to 6 months and
15 requires that if at the end of the contract the Public Utilities Commission rejects all bids for
16 a new standard-offer service contract, the expiring contract continues until the commission
17 accepts a bid for a new contract. The bill also requires that if at the end of a standard-offer
18 electricity service contract the current standard-offer service provider submits a bid for a
19 new contract at a higher rate for electricity than the expiring contract, the provider must
20 include justification for the rate increase.