

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 839

Date: 6/2/25

(Filing No. S-223)

MAJORITY
ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 372, L.D. 839, "An Act to Lower Consumer Electricity Costs by Prohibiting the Recovery Through Rates of Costs Attributable to Net Energy Billing"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Create the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3209-F is enacted to read:

§3209-F. Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund

1. Fund established. There is established the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," as an account within the commission. The fund is a nonlapsing, revolving fund administered by the commission for the purpose of offsetting the costs to ratepayers associated with the net energy billing program under section 3209-A and section 3209-B.

2. Sources for fund. The commission may receive and deposit in the fund funds from the following sources:

A. Federal funds and awards that may be used for the purposes specified in this section;

B. Appropriations and transfers authorized by the Legislature; and

C. Any other funds from public or private sources received for the purposes of this section.

3. Use of funds. To the extent that funds are available, the commission shall use the fund exclusively to make payments to reimburse transmission and distribution utilities for any costs incurred as a result of the net energy billing program under section 3209-A and section 3209-B that would have otherwise been paid by ratepayers.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

4. Rules. The commission may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

5. Report. By February 1st of any year in which the commission has paid a reimbursement from the fund to a transmission and distribution utility in the prior calendar year, the commission shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over electricity matters that includes the amount of the reimbursement paid in the prior calendar year, the source of any funds received by the fund in the prior calendar year and any other relevant information as determined by the commission. The committee may report out a bill related to the commission's report.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund N540

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for the purpose of making payments to transmission and distribution utilities that would have otherwise been paid by ratepayers.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$500	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$0

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It establishes the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund within the Public Utilities Commission. It provides that the fund must be used to reimburse a transmission and distribution utility for any costs incurred as a result of the State's net energy billing programs that would have otherwise been paid by ratepayers. It requires the commission to submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over electricity matters a report that includes information about funds received by the fund and used for reimbursements for any year in which the commission pays reimbursements through the fund. It authorizes the commission to adopt rules to implement the requirements of the legislation. It includes a \$500 appropriation for the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 839****LR 706(02)****An Act to Lower Consumer Electricity Costs by Prohibiting the Recovery Through Rates of Costs
Attributable to Net Energy Billing**

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"(S. 223)
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill establishes the Net Energy Billing Stabilization Fund within the Public Utilities Commission and includes a one-time General Fund appropriation to the fund of \$500 in fiscal year 2025-26.