

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 369

H. P. 293

House of Representatives, January 23, 1969

Referred to Committee on Public Utilities. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Clark of Wells.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-NINE

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**AN ACT** Relating to a Civil Penalty for Gas Companies or Natural Gas  
Pipeline Companies.

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

**R. S., T. 35, § 359, additional.** Title 35 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 359, to read as follows :

**§ 359. Civil penalty for gas and natural gas pipeline companies**

Any gas company that violates any provision of chapters 1 to 17 or of any regulation issued thereunder or any natural gas pipeline company that violates any provisions of chapters 1 to 17 or chapter 181 or of any regulation issued thereunder, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation for each day that the violation persists. However, the maximum civil penalty shall not exceed \$200,000 for any related series of violations.

Any civil penalty may be compromised by the commission. In determining the amount of the penalty, or the amount agreed upon in compromise, the appropriateness of the penalty to the size of the business of the gas company or natural gas pipeline company charged, the gravity of the violation, and the good faith of the gas company or natural gas pipeline company charged in attempting to achieve compliance, after notification of a violation, shall be considered. The amount of the penalty, when finally determined, or the amount agreed upon in compromise, may be deducted from any sums owing by the State to the gas company or natural gas pipeline company charged or may be recovered in a civil action in the State courts.