

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 834

S. P. 258

In Senate, February 28, 1975

Referred to Committee on Energy. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Gahagan of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Reorganizing the State Energy Capability.

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA Pt. 13, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 770, § 2, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA Pt. 14 is enacted to read:

PART 14

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 339

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

§ 5101. Policy and purpose

The Legislature declares that there is a critical need for energy management, including, but not limited to, emergency and long-range energy planning, research and development of alternate sources of energy, the coordination of the current and future use of energy in Maine and administration of State Government policy related to energy supply and use.

The Legislature declares that this is a function of critical importance, which requires the full support and involvement of the Governor to ensure the availability and equitable distribution of energy to all the people of the State of Maine.

§ 5102. Energy Coordinator

1. Position established. There is established, to carry out the purposes of this chapter, the position of Energy Coordinator in the Executive Depart-

ment who shall be concerned with carrying out the responsibilities of State Government relating to energy management. The Energy Coordinator shall be directly responsible to the Governor.

2. Appointment; salary. The coordinator shall be appointed by and his salary determined by the Governor.

3. Powers and duties. The Energy Coordinator shall exercise the powers of the office and shall be responsible for the execution of its duties. He shall be under the immediate supervision, direction and control of the Governor and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed. He shall have power over all state agencies, insofar as energy management is concerned. It is his responsibility to carry out the energy-related objectives of the Governor and the State, including but not limited to, the following:

A. Budgetary review. This includes a review of operations and budgets of all state government agencies with respect to the state energy policy. The Energy Coordinator will report his review and recommendations to the Governor.

B. Coordination of short and long-range energy planning. This includes the responsibility for ensuring that federal and regional policy initiatives are taken into account and that other energy planning activities within the State of both governmental and private groups are coordinated to the maximum extent. This also involves formulation of emergency contingency plans.

C. Collection and analysis of state-wide energy data from all available sources. Data on resource availability and potential as well as that related to production, distribution and consumption of energy within this State shall be gathered on a regular basis to be determined by the Energy Coordinator. These data and analyses shall be utilized in the ongoing decision-making process, as well as for future planning studies.

D. Identification and monitoring of all energy-related research and development efforts underway in the State. This includes not only maintaining up-to-date knowledge of all major research and development efforts of public and private research centers, but providing a linkage between these centers for the interchange of information and for encouraging research and development efforts.

E. Development of alternate energy resources. This includes the allocation and administration of any state funds appropriated for research and development in energy-related matters for expenditure by the Energy Coordinator, and concerted efforts to secure federal funds for the development of Maine's abundant renewable resources. The Energy Coordinator shall be able to make research arrangements with the state university system and other academic institutions. He shall have the authority to enter into contracts with private individuals, public and private institutions and any instrumentalities of government. He shall be able to organize ventures for the development of alternate energy sources and such additional capabilities as may be deemed necessary for the execution of his responsibilities.

F. Voluntary energy conservation. Encouragement of voluntary energy conservation is one of the best means of coping with immediate energy problems. To encourage this effort, the Energy Coordinator shall work closely with state and local government, industry, business and the public to encourage more efficient utilization of available energy. This includes developing educational programs on energy conservation.

G. Relations with Federal Government. Monitoring of federal energy activities includes not only maintaining liaison with the federal agencies directly concerned with energy, and seeking federal funds for state projects, but also of monitoring pending federal legislation and reviewing federal documents related to energy. The Energy Coordinator shall also be responsible for maintaining relations with federal, regional and public organizations.

H. Dissemination of energy-related information. The Energy Coordinator is responsible for disseminating energy-related information on a timely basis to the public. Upon request, the Energy Coordinator shall provide information to the public and private groups in the field of energy.

I. Administration of federal energy programs. The Energy Coordinator is responsible for administering all federal energy programs to be carried out in Maine. This includes, but is not limited to, the Fuel Allocation and Conservation Program and all related activities.

§ 5103. Task Force on State Energy Policy

Every 5 years, beginning in 1980, or more frequently if changing conditions require it, the Governor shall appoint a Task Force on State Energy Policy, consisting of not more than 3 people, to study the energy problems of the State and the Legislature. The Energy Coordinator shall serve as chairman of this task force.

§ 5104. Governor's Review Board on Energy

1. Appointment. The Governor shall appoint a Review Board on Energy to advise the Governor, the Legislature and the Energy Coordinator on policy matters relating to energy.

2. Membership. The Governor's Review Board on Energy shall consist of the following: One Member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one Member of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate, with said legislators to serve ex officio; the following 12 members, who shall serve ex officio: the Energy Coordinator; the Director of the State Planning Office; the Director of the Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness; the Commissioner of Health and Welfare; the Commissioner of Transportation; the Commissioner of Commerce and Industry; the Commissioner of Conservation; the Commissioner of Environmental Protection; the Commissioner of Manpower Affairs; the Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission; the Attorney General; the Director of the Maine State Housing Authority, or their designated representatives; and 9 members to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, such members to be selected on the basis of their

interest, education and experience in the areas of energy planning, research and development, to include one representative from the business community, one representative of industry, one representative of labor, one representative of the private utilities, one representative of the oil industry, 2 representatives from the academic community and 2 representatives of the general public.

The 9 members to be appointed by the Governor shall serve for 4-year terms. Members may be reappointed for one additional 4-year term.

The members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The chairman of the board shall be elected annually by the board.

Upon the effective date of this Act, the current members of the State Energy Resources Advisory Council shall become the members of the Governor's Review Board on Energy. The Governor shall make appointments to the review board on energy only at such time as the terms of the members of the State Energy Resources Advisory Council shall expire. At such time as all of the members of the State Energy Resources Advisory Council have been replaced or reappointed, the Governor shall make appointments in the manner prescribed above.

3. Duties. The Governor's Review Board on Energy shall meet at least 3 times each year and at other times at the request of the Governor. The members of the board shall provide information and assistance on energy matters. The board shall act only in an advisory capacity and shall have no power to control the activities of the Governor.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Executive Department the sum of \$72,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT		
Administration		
Personal Services	(1) \$25,000	(1) \$25,000
All Other	10,000	11,000
Capital Expenditures	1,000	—
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	\$36,000	\$36,000

FISCAL NOTE

This bill would represent a savings to the State of \$170,486 for the next biennium.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to carry out the provisions of the Comprehensive Energy Plan for the State of Maine and to effect the most efficient organization of the state energy capability.