

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 274**

H. P. 226

House of Representatives, February 1, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Taxation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Maxwell of Jay.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT to Remove the Sales Tax from Residential Electricity.**

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

**36 MRSA § 1760, sub-§ 9-B**, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 686, § 2, is amended to read:

**9-B. Residential electricity.** ~~Sale of the first 750 kilowatt hours of residential electricity per month~~ **Sale of residential electricity.** For the purpose of this subsection, "residential electricity" shall mean electricity furnished to homes, mobile homes, boarding homes and apartment houses, with the exception of hotels and motels.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Public Utilities Commission has recently ordered a "flat rate" for residential electricity users, under which every user pays the same amount per kilowatt hour. Previously, a "declining block structure" benefited the high users. Removal of the entire sales tax will similarly put all residential customers on an equal basis. Removal of the entire sales tax will result in an annual revenue loss of \$800,000.