

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-346)
109TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT" **A**"to H.P. 632, L.D. 783, Bill,
"AN ACT to Require the Public Utilities Commission to Study
the Safe and Proper Decommissioning of Nuclear Generating
Facilities in Maine."

Amend the bill by striking out all of the first para-
graph in section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 2. Investigation of decommissioning methods and costs
There is hereby created the Joint Select Committee on De-
commissioning of Nuclear Generating Facilities to consist of
17 members, including the Joint Standing Committee on Public
Utilities; a representative of the Public Utilities Com-
mission, appointed by the Chairman of the Public Utilities
Commission; a representative from a nuclear power generating
facility, selected by the Governor; and 2 members to represent
the general public, appointed by the Governor. The Joint
Select Committee on Decommissioning of Nuclear Generating
Facilities shall investigate and study the subject matter of
the safe and proper decommissioning of nuclear powered gen-
erating facilities located within the State and subject to
the jurisdiction of the State and the Public Utilities Com-
mission. This study shall include the following subject mat-
ters:'

Further amend the bill in section 3 by striking out the following:

"Sec. 3. Report by the Public Utilities Commission. The Public Utilities Commission shall complete the study within the limits of the resources and powers available to it and within the confines of its present budgetary allowances, and shall present its report on or before January 1, 1981, for the 110th Legislature." and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 3. Report on findings and recommendation. The Joint Select Committee on Decommissioning of Nuclear Generating Facilities shall complete the study and report its findings and recommendations and any necessary implementing legislation on or before January 5, 1981, to the 110th Legislature.'

Further amend the bill by adding at the end before the statement of fact the following:

'Sec. 4. Appropriation. The following funds shall be appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

1979-80

LEGISLATIVE ACCOUNT

Joint Select Committee on
Decommissioning of Nuclear
Generating Facilities

\$ 5,000

Any funds remaining at the end of fiscal year 1979-80 shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward to fiscal year 1980-81 to be used for the same purpose.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to establish a Joint Select Committee to study decommissioning of nuclear power plants. According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Government is actively seeking guidance from the States with respect to decommissioning policies for nuclear power plants. Nearly all the States have participated in workshops conducted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Maine, however, is one of the very few states that has refused to participate.

By conducting a study to develop decommissioning policies, the State will be able to propose policies that are best suited to this State, rather than accept policies imposed by the federal government. Since decommissioning will have a great impact upon nearly all citizens of Maine, particularly with respect to the cost involved, it is in the best interests of the State to develop policies that have the least severe impact on Maine citizens. In addition, decommissioning policies should be determined by representatives of the public and not by appointed executive officials.

This amendment also provides \$5,000 for implementation of the study.

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on Public Utilities
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the
Clerk of the House.

5/7/79

(Filing No. H-346)