

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1174

H. P. 986

House of Representatives, March 9, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Huber of Falmouth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Concerning Energy Conservation in Projects Funded by Housing Authority Loans.

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

30 MRSA § 4651-A is enacted to read:

§ 4651-A. Energy efficiency construction standards

After the effective date of this section, no loans may be made or projects funded or developed in whole or in part by any housing authority if the project is not energy efficient. All projects shall be designed to meet, as a minimum, the state's standards for building energy efficiency under Title 10, chapter 214, as long as this standard is compatible with and more stringent than standards for the federal housing programs under which these projects are funded. Conflicts between federal and state standards shall be resolved by the Maine State Housing Authority to ensure compliance with the energy conservation intent of this section and to allow construction to proceed.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Most of the recently constructed publicly-subsidized housing has used electric resistance equipment for heating. The heating of housing with electric heat generated in centralized nuclear, oil or coal fueled plants captures only 25% of the

fuel's energy potential, while wood, coal and other fuel consumption for heating directly within the housing unit is 60-75% efficient.

This bill requires that projects funded or developed by housing authorities, after the effective date of the bill, comply with the State Building Energy Efficiency Standards.