

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-391)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1180, L.D. 1404, Bill,
"AN ACT to Establish an Energy Conservation Program for Com-
mercial and Light Industrial Buildings."

Amend the Bill in section 2, in that part designated
"§1496.", in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph A
and inserting in its place the following:

'A. "Commercial building" means any building which is owned
and operated by a person, firm, partnership, corporation
or association employing less than 100 persons which is
used primarily for the wholesale, retail or nonprofit sale
of goods or services. Buildings eligible for assistance
under <—————> the National Energy Conservation Policy
Act of 1978, ^{Title III,} Public Law 95-619, shall not be eligible for
this program.'

Further amend the Bill in section 2, in that part designated
"§1496.", in subsection 1 by inserting after paragraph C the
following:

'D. "Energy auditor" means a person who, by presentation of
evidence regarding applicable training and experience, has
been certified by the Office of Energy Resources to conduct
energy audits.'

Further amend the Bill in section 2, in that part designated "§1496.", in subsection 1, by relettering paragraphs D and E to be paragraphs E and F

Further amend the Bill in section/^{2,} in that part designated "§1496.", in subsection 1, by striking out all of paragraph F.

Further amend the Bill in section 2, in that part designated "§1496.", by striking out all of subsections 2 and 3 and inserting in their place the following:

'2. Use of funds. The Office of Energy Resources shall use the funds made available under this chapter to establish a mobil energy conservation information service for commercial and small industrial building owners and operators. This may include the acquisition of a van to be outfitted with displays of energy conservation measures, operation and maintenance procedures, and other information pertinent to energy conservation in the target buildings. This van would be made available to provide direct, on-site information and technical assistance to commercial and small industrial building owners and operators throughout the State. The purpose of these on-site visits will be to provide general information and assistance and, in particular, advice on energy audits.

the Maine Administrative Procedure Act,
The director shall, in accordance with/Title 5, chapter 375, develop rules for the implementation of this chapter. These rules shall include, but shall ^{not be} limited to, provisions for certifying energy auditors based on training and experience. The Office of Energy Resources may \leftarrow charge fees from applicants to pay for the costs of the certification program.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment has 3 main components. First, the bill as amended broadens the definition of "commercial building" to include nonprofit groups, such as YMCA's and YWCA's. Second, the amendment changes the purpose for which funds would be spent. Rather than offer 50% grants to commercial and light industrial building owners to pay for energy audits as originally proposed, the funds will be used to establish a mobil energy conservation information service. This may take the form of a van outfitted with displays of energy conservation techniques and other materials which will travel across the State providing on-site energy information and technical assistance to commercial and light industrial building owners. This change was made in order to ensure that a large number of commercial and light industrial building owners are able to receive energy information and advice. The 3rd component of the amendment establishes a building energy auditors' certification program within the Office of Energy Resources. This is to ensure some degree of quality assurance and consumer protection for building owners who choose to have energy audits performed as a result of the Office of Energy Resources' mobil information service. In promoting its mobil energy information services, the Office of Energy Resources will promote the advisability of in-depth energy audits and refer interested parties to state certified energy auditors.

Reported by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
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