

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 246

6
7 H.P. 202

House of Representatives, January 21, 1983

8 Received by the Clerk of the House on January 21, 1983. Referred to the
9 Committee on Public Utilities, and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Ridley of Shapleigh.

Cosponsors: Representative Weymouth of West Gardiner, Representative
Vose of Eastport and Senator Emerson of Penobscot.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Clarify Utility Financing of
18 Energy Conservation.
19

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

22 35 MRSA §94, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1977, c.
23 521, is amended to read:

24 The Public Utilities Commission shall mandate,
25 after notice and hearing on the proposed schedule, a
26 scheduled phasing-in of the improvements in electric
27 utility rate design and related regulatory programs
28 approved under section 93 and is authorized to order
29 utilities to develop and implement electric utility
30 rate design improvements approved by the commission
31 on temporary, pilot and experimental basis, affecting
32 either a portion or all of any class of consumers of
33 any utility as the commission may determine is appropriate
34 to carry out the purposes of this Act, and

1 order other energy conservation techniques, programs
2 and innovations relating to electric public utility
3 service that, in the commission's judgment, are
4 practicable, just and reasonably related to fulfill-
5 ing the purposes of this chapter. In ordering any
6 rate design improvements or any other programs for
7 implementing energy conservation techniques and inno-
8 ventions referred to in section 93, the commission
9 shall consider and assure the revenue requirements of
10 the utility. In assuring the revenue requirements of
11 the utility, the commission shall take into account
12 the utility's incremental costs associated with
13 implementing and operating those improvements and
14 programs.

15 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 Last year, the Legislature amended the Electric
17 Rate Reform Act to authorize the Public Utilities
18 Commission to order utilities to implement energy
19 conservation loan programs. Uncertainty has arisen
20 regarding the extent to which the Legislature
21 intended that the commission compensate the utilities
22 for their efforts in implementing these programs.
23 Because of this uncertainty, there is a risk that
24 utilities may never be reimbursed for the costs of
25 implementing these programs. This bill makes it
26 clear that utilities should be fully and fairly com-
27 pensated for participating in these programs, thereby
28 encouraging the development of additional worthwhile
29 programs under the Electric Rate Reform Act.

30 1364011283