

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 2139

6
7 H.P. 1617

House of Representatives, February 28, 1984

8 Submitted by the Office of Energy Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
9 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Sent up
for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

10 Presented by Representative McGowan of Pittsfield.

Cosponsors: Senator Pearson of Penobscot, Representative Bost of
Orono and Representative Baker of Portland.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Require New Residential and
18 Commercial Buildings that Use Electricity as
19 a Heat Source to Meet the State Energy
20 Efficiency Building Performance Standards.
21

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

24 35 MRSA §97 is enacted to read:

25 §97. Utility certification

26 Prior to receiving electric service, the owner of
27 each new residential and commercial building con-
28 structed after January 1, 1986, in which electric
29 space heating units are installed shall submit to the
30 utility certification that the building meets the En-
31 ergy Efficiency Building Performance Standards, as
32 provided in Title 10, sections 1411 to 1420. In the
33 event that the owner of a building subject to this
34 section is unable to provide the utility with a cer-

1 tification of energy efficiency, the owner shall pay
2 to the utility a one-time installation fee set by the
3 commission for each utility. The fee shall reflect,
4 at the minimum, the capacity costs that will be in-
5 curring by the utility as a result of the installa-
6 tion.

7 STATEMENT OF FACT

8 This bill requires any building where electric
9 heating units are installed to meet the Energy Effi-
10 ciency Building Performance Standards. The owner of
11 any building that does not meet the standards would
12 be subject to a one-time installation fee. The fee
13 will be established by the Public Utilities Commis-
14 sion and will be based on the capacity costs that
15 will be incurred by the utility as a result of the
16 installation.

17 The Office of Energy Resources estimates that it
18 could cost about \$2,000 to build a single family home
19 that meets the standards than to build a poorly insu-
20 lated home. The annual energy saving would be about
21 \$450 at present rates. This translates into a 4.4
22 year simple payback. The savings in electrical con-
23 sumption in this example would be almost 9,000 kilo-
24 watt hours a year or about a 40% improvement in effi-
25 ciency.

26 Growth in electric space heating is increasing
27 peak power and energy requirements in Maine. The high
28 cost of building and financing the new power plants
29 needed to supply this growing demand raises rates for
30 all consumers. Requiring electrically space heated
31 buildings to meet energy efficiency standards will
32 reduce growth in electricity consumption and reduce
33 the need for future rate increases.

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