

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 703

H.P. 509

House of Representatives, February 20, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HEESCHEN of Wilton.

Cosponsored by Representative MANNING of Portland, Representative ADAMS of Portland and Senator CONLEY of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act Regarding Public Exposure to Nonionizing Radiation.



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

4 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §689-A is enacted to read:

6 §689-A. Warning labels on power transformers and substations

8 The department shall adopt rules in accordance with the
10 Maine Administrative Procedure Act that require warning labels on
12 all pad-mounted transformers and substations owned or maintained
14 by an electric utility as defined in Title 35-A, section 102,
16 subsection 5. The warning labels must read: "WARNING:
18 ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS -- KEEP AWAY."

20 Sec. 2. Pilot survey. The Department of Human Services, Bureau
22 of Health shall conduct a pilot survey to assess exposure to
24 nonionizing radiation below 300 hertz in and around elementary
26 schools. The department shall select a sample that includes
28 schools at high risk of exposure and schools at low risk of
30 exposure and schools from various geographical areas of the
32 State. The sample size must be as large as possible within
34 available funds. The Department of Education shall cooperate
36 with the Department of Human Services to implement the survey.

38 The Department of Human Services shall report its findings
40 and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Human
42 Resources by March 1, 1992. A copy of the report must be sent to
44 the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

46 Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated
48 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

50 1991-92

HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Health

All Other \$15,000

Provides funds to conduct an assessment of
nonionizing radiation in and around
elementary schools.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The bill requires that warning labels be placed on all
pad-mounted electrical transformers and substations that are
owned or maintained by electric utilities.

2 The bill also requires the Department of Human Services to
conduct a pilot survey to assess nonionizing radiation in and
around elementary schools.