

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 341

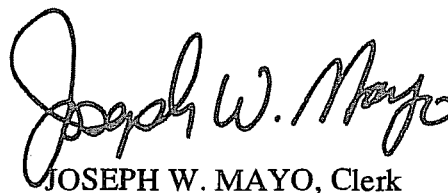
H.P. 263

House of Representatives, February 8, 1993

**An Act to Encourage Conservation and Load Management by Electric Utilities.**

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Reference to the Committee on Utilities suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative HEESCHEN of Wilton.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, MORRISON of Bangor, Senator:  
McCORMICK of Kennebec.

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3154, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 613, §3, is amended to read:

6. Conservation investments in rate base. Upon petition by the public utility in any general rate change request pursuant to section 307, filed on or after January 1, 1988, ~~the commission may in its discretion include in the utility's rate base and permit a fair return on the utility's rate base, any electric plant to the extent financed by the utility which constitutes a cost-effective investment in conservation or load management and which was installed on the premises of a customer~~ the commission shall include in the rate base those electric plant investments financed by the utility that the commission determines to be cost-effective investments in conservation or load management. The commission shall allow a return on those conservation and load-management investments that is at least one percentage point but not more than 5 percentage points greater than the rate of return otherwise allowed by the commission.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to allow electric utilities to earn a rate of return for cost-effective energy conservation or load-management investments that is from one to 5 percentage points higher than the rate of return otherwise allowed on that utility's rate base. The Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3154, subsection 6 applies to all real estate, fixtures and personal property financed by the utility that the commission determines to be a cost-effective conservation or load-management investment, including property installed on the premises of a customer and property owned by someone other than the utility.