

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 734

S.P. 241

In Senate, March 2, 1993

An Act to Ensure Compliance with Existing Energy Efficiency Building Standards.

Reference to the Committee on Utilities suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CLEVELAND of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative: KONTOS of Windham.

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

4 Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1415-H is enacted to read:

6 §1415-H. Electric service; compliance required

8 1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

10 A. "Electric utility" has the same meaning as in Title 12 35-A, section 102, subsection 5.

14 B. "Energy auditor" means a person certified as an energy auditor under Title 32, chapter 88.

16 C. "Registered engineer" means a person registered as a 18 professional engineer under Title 32, chapter 19, subchapter III.

20 2. Prohibition. After the effective date of this section, 22 an electric utility may not install electric service to any new commercial or institutional building subject to the mandatory 24 standards set forth in section 1415-D, or upgrade electric service as part of a renovation of an existing commercial or 26 institutional building subject to those standards, unless the electric utility receives written notification from a registered 28 engineer or an energy auditor that the building is in compliance with the provisions of that section. The owner of the building 30 may not allow a utility to install electric service unless the owner has obtained the certificate of compliance.

32 3. Violation. A building owner who violates this section 34 commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more than 5% of the value of construction must be 36 adjudged. A utility that violates this section commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$100 and not 38 more than \$1,000 must be adjudged. A registered engineer or an energy auditor who provides false information pursuant to this 40 section commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000 must be adjudged.

42
44 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

46 This bill prohibits electric utilities from providing any 48 electric service to a new commercial or institutional building that is subject to the mandatory energy standards set forth in existing law, or upgrading electric service as part of a 50 renovation of an existing commercial or institutional building

2 subject to those standards, unless an engineer or an energy
auditor certifies that the building conforms to those energy
4 standards. Current law defines renovation as the reconstruction,
removal or replacement of any portion or element of an existing
6 building that affects the heat loss or gain of the building,
illumination of the building or the heating, ventilating or air
8 conditioning of the building when the total cost of the
renovation exceeds 75% of the assessed value of the building.
10 Renovation does not include normal maintenance and repair and
does not include the reconstruction, removal or addition of
12 equipment that costs less than 75% of the assessed value of the
building. This bill also contains a provision for violations.