

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 483

S.P. 154

In Senate, January 28, 1997

An Act to Create Industrial Enterprise Districts to Promote Economic Development and to Retain and Increase Good Quality Jobs by Providing More Competitive Electric Rates within the Districts.

Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator O'GARA of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DRISCOLL of Calais, USHER of Westbrook.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRS §3196** is enacted to read:

6 **§3196. Industrial enterprise districts**

8 The governing body of any municipality in this State may
10 petition the commission to establish within the municipality an
12 industrial enterprise district in which reduced electric rates
14 are available to eligible businesses. The commission shall adopt
16 rules governing the establishment of industrial enterprise
18 districts, eligibility requirements for businesses, the setting
20 of reduced rates and other terms and conditions associated with
any reduced rate offering. The commission's rules must encourage
the expansion of existing industrial plants and facilities and
the location of new plants and facilities in industrial
enterprise districts. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are
major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
subchapter II-A and must be presented to the Legislature for
review no later than February 1, 1998.

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill allows a municipality to petition the Public
26 Utilities Commission to establish within the municipality an
28 industrial enterprise district in which electric rates are
30 reduced for eligible businesses. The commission is directed to
32 adopt major substantive rules governing the establishment of
these districts and the terms and conditions of the reduced rate
offerings. The rules must be submitted for legislative review no
later than February 1, 1998.