

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 1480

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S.P. 495

In Senate, February 23, 1999

**An Act Relating to Electric Utility Rate Design.**

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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 KONTOS of Cumberland.

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

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4         **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3209, sub-§§1-A, 1-B and 1-C** are enacted to read:

6         **1-A. Rate design to be nondiscriminatory.** The commission shall ensure that the design of rates for the recovery of stranded costs pursuant to this chapter are nondiscriminatory between customer classes. In meeting this requirement, the following minimum requirements must be met:

12           **A.** The commission shall allocate stranded costs to all classes and to all customers within classes on the basis of demand or energy or both;

16           **B.** The commission shall determine the demand and energy usage for each customer class in the same manner as it determines the demand and energy usage for all other customer classes;

20           **C.** The commission shall determine the demand and energy usage of each customer within each class in the same manner as it determines the demand and energy usage of all other customers in that customer class; and

26           **D.** The commission shall determine the allocation of stranded costs to each customer class in the same manner and subject to the same unit of measure for demand and energy as it determines the allocation of stranded costs for all other customer classes.

32         **1-B. Special rate discounts.** This section does not alter the commission's authority to approve special rate discounts for customers or customer classes pursuant to section 703 or pursuant to any alternative rate-making plan approved by the commission.

36         **1-C. Standby customer class.** The commission shall establish a separate class, or separate classes, for customers taking standby service. The revenue responsibility of classes for standby customers must be determined in the same manner and subject to the same unit of measure for demand and energy as all other customer classes.

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46                                    **SUMMARY**

48           This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to  
50         develop electric utility rates in a manner that does not discriminate between classes of customers.