MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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_	L.D. 397
2	DATE: 4/25/05 (Filing No. H-185)
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6	UTILITIES AND ENERGY
8	
10	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
12	STATE OF MAINE
14	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 122ND LEGISLATURE
16	FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
18	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 300, L.D. 397, Bill, "An
20	Act To Promote the More Efficient Use of Natural Gas"
22	Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§4711." in subsection 1 by striking out all of the first underlined
24	sentence (page 1, lines 7 to 11 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following: 'In accordance with rules adopted by the
26	commission, each natural gas utility in the State that serves 5,000 or more residential consumers shall offer cost-effective
28	conservation programs designed to promote the efficient use of
30	natural gas.'
	Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated
32	"§4711." in subsection 1 by striking out all of paragraph B and inserting in its place the following:
34	
36	'B. The gas utility shall apportion available funds under subsection 3 in accordance with rules adopted by the
38	commission.
30	(1) The commission shall ensure that a reasonable
40	percentage of the available funds is directed to
	programs for low-income residential consumers, as
42	defined by the commission by rule. The commission
44	shall establish the percentage based on an assessment of the opportunity for cost-effective conservation
44	measures for such consumers, including an assessment of
46	the number of low-income residential consumers that may be eligible for such programs.
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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT 'A" to H.P. 300, L.D. 397

	(2) The commission shall ensure that a reasonable
2	percentage of the available funds is directed to
	programs for small business consumers, as defined by
4	the commission by rule. The commission shall establish the percentage based on an assessment of the
6	opportunity for cost-effective conservation measures
Ü	for such consumers. In defining "small business" for
8	the purposes of this subparagraph, the commission shall
	consider definitions of that term used for other
10	programs in this State that assist small businesses.
12	(3) The commission shall ensure that, to the greatest
14	extent practicable, the remaining available funds are apportioned in a manner that allows all other consumers
7.4	to have a reasonable opportunity to participate in one
16	or more conservation programs.'
18	Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated
	"§4711." by striking out all of subsection 3 and inserting in its
20	place the following:
22	'3. Funding level. Each gas utility to which this section
24	applies shall undertake energy efficiency programs designed to operate within a budget, upon full implementation, that is no
21	less than 3% of the gas utility's delivery revenues as defined by
26	the commission by rule.'
28	Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated
	"§4711." in subsection 5 by striking out all of paragraph C and
30	inserting in its place the following:
32	'C. For each gas utility to which this section applies,
32	total expenditures for its conservation programs during the
34	prior 12 months and projected expenditures during the next
31	12 months; and'
36	
38	SUMMARY
40	This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.
70	inis amendment makes the following changes to the bill.
42	1. It provides that the apportionment of a gas utility's
	available funds for conservation programs must be in accordance
44	with rules adopted by the Public Utilities Commission. It directs
	the Public Utilities Commission to ensure that a reasonable
46	percentage of funds is available to low-income consumers and to

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small-business consumers based on an assessment of the opportunity for cost-effective conservation measures for such

consumers. It also directs the commission to define "small

a of S		COMMITTEE AMENDMENT 'A" to H.P. 300, L.D. 397
,	2	business" and to consider definitions of that term used for other programs that assist small businesses.
	4	It changes the funding level for conservation programs so that it is calculated using delivery revenues rather than
	6	total revenues.
	8	3. It clarifies some language of the bill.
	10	

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)

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LD 397

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An Act To Promote the More Efficient Use of Natural Gas

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment Committee: Utilities and Energy
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds