

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1381

H.P. 973

House of Representatives, March 13, 2007

Resolve, To Ensure the Success of Regional Climate Change Efforts

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLETCHER of Winslow.
Cosponsored by Senator SMITH of Piscataquis and
Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, AYOTTE of Caswell, BRAUTIGAM of
Falmouth, HAMPER of Oxford, McDONOUGH of Scarborough, RINES of Wiscasset.

1 **Sec. 1. Office of Public Advocate study. Resolved:** That the Office of the
2 Public Advocate shall, in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission, other state
3 agencies and interested members of the public, study the possible economic impacts of
4 the regional greenhouse gas initiative, referred to in this resolve as "the initiative" and as
5 authorized by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 579, upon all Maine
6 electricity consumers. The Public Advocate's study shall determine, based on several
7 alternative scenarios, the possible range of cost impacts on affected Maine electricity
8 consumers on an annual basis for each of the first 10 years of the initiative program. As
9 part of this study, the Public Advocate shall identify alternatives for reducing the cost of
10 implementation of the initiative upon Maine electricity consumers and may include in the
11 report proposed legislation designed to reduce such costs and to ensure the successful
12 implementation of the initiative. The report must also determine the effect upon any
13 manufacturing facility that acquires thermal and electric energy from an initiative-
14 designated power plant and must identify the recipients of revenues derived from Maine
15 electricity consumers under the initiative. The report and accompanying legislative
16 proposals must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy by
17 January 1, 2008. The committee may submit legislation to reduce the costs of the
18 initiative to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

19

SUMMARY

20 This resolve requires the Public Advocate to undertake a study of the potential
21 economic impacts on Maine electricity consumers of the regional greenhouse gas
22 initiative, which is part of the State's climate action plan to reduce greenhouse gas
23 emissions. As part of the study, the Public Advocate shall look at and propose to the
24 Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature alternatives to reduce the costs of the
25 initiative.