

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 4/24/9

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 581, L.D. 845, Bill, "An Act To Expand Access to Efficiency Maine Rebate Programs"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, To Expand Access to Renewable Energy Programs'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency are significant priorities of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; and

Whereas, significant funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will be disbursed to the Public Utilities Commission in the immediate future for energy initiatives, including renewable energy programs; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Renewable energy outreach programs. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission, in cooperation with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service, shall conduct a 2-year outreach and education program to provide information to residents statewide regarding renewable energy technology and systems for residential use and the renewable energy programs and incentives available through federal, state and local agencies. The program must include at least one informational presentation in each of the 16 counties of the State; and be it further

Sec. 2. Reports. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission, in cooperation with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service, shall prepare and submit an interim report and a final report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

MS

1 jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters regarding the outreach and education
2 program required by section 1. The interim report must address the status and progress of
3 the program and must be submitted no later than April 1, 2010. The final report on the
4 program and results achieved must be submitted no later than December 31, 2011; and be
5 it further

6 **Sec. 3. Rules. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities Commission may adopt rules
7 as necessary to implement this resolve. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine
8 technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter
9 2-A; and be it further

10 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
11 allocations are made.

12 **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

13 **Solar Rebate Program Fund Z012**

14 Initiative: Allocates from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds to
15 coordinate with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service for a 2-year
16 outreach program in each of the 16 counties in Maine regarding renewable energy
17 information on technology, systems and availability.

18	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND ARRA	2009-10	2010-11
19	All Other	\$25,000	\$25,000
20			
21	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND ARRA TOTAL	<u>\$25,000</u>	<u>\$25,000</u>

22 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
23 legislation takes effect when approved.'

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The resolve directs the Public
26 Utilities Commission, in cooperation with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension
27 Service, to conduct a 2-year outreach and education program to provide information to
28 Maine residents regarding renewable energy technology and systems for residential use
29 and the renewable energy programs and incentives available through federal, state and
30 local agencies. The resolve requires the Public Utilities Commission, in cooperation with
31 the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service, to submit an interim report and a
32 final report on this outreach and education program to the joint standing committee of the
33 Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters and authorizes the
34 commission to adopt routine technical rules as necessary to implement the program. The
35 amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 845

LR 1362(02)

An Act To Expand Access to Efficiency Maine Rebate Programs

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Utilities and Energy

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	2009-10	2010-11	Projections 2011-12	Projections 2012-13
Appropriations/Allocations				
Federal Expenditures Fund ARRA	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$0
Revenue				
Federal Expenditures Fund ARRA	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes an allocation to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to conduct a two-year outreach and education program in each of the sixteen counties of Maine on renewable energy technology and systems for residential usage. The PUC will work in cooperation with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to accomplish this program, produce reports and adopt routine technical rules. Additional costs to the University of Maine System to participate in the renewable energy outreach program can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.