

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2010

Legislative Document

No. 1581

H.P. 1119

House of Representatives, December 22, 2009

**An Act Concerning Electricity Customers Whose Bills Increase as a
Result of the Implementation of Energy Conservation or Energy
Efficiency Measures**

Submitted by the Office of the Public Advocate pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 18, 2009. Referred to the Committee on Utilities and Energy pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FITTS of Pittsfield.
Cosponsored by Senator HOBBS of York and
Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, DOSTIE of Sabattus, FLAHERTY of Scarborough,
FLETCHER of Winslow, HINCK of Portland, VAN WIE of New Gloucester, Senators:
GERZOFISKY of Cumberland, SHERMAN of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §301, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 506, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Determining rates.** In determining just and reasonable rates, the commission:

5 A. Shall provide such revenues to the utility as may be required to perform its
6 public service and to attract necessary capital on just and reasonable terms; ~~and~~

7 B. Shall, to a level within the commission's discretion, consider whether the utility
8 is operating as efficiently as possible and is utilizing sound management practices,
9 including the treatment in rates of executive compensation; ~~and~~

10 C. Shall ensure that there is no increase in a customer's bill as a result of that
11 customer's reduction in demand or consumption of electricity attributable to the
12 implementation of energy conservation or energy efficiency measures.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 The purpose of this bill is to address situations in which electricity customers in
15 certain rate classes have seen their electricity bills go up significantly even though their
16 electricity consumption has declined following their implementation of energy
17 conservation and energy efficiency measures. This bill requires the Public Utilities
18 Commission to ensure that there is no increase in an electricity customer's bill as a result
19 of that customer's reduction in demand or consumption of electricity attributable to the
20 implementation of energy conservation or energy efficiency measures.