MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 431

S.P. 135

In Senate, February 10, 2011

An Act To Require the Efficiency Maine Trust To More Effectively Administer Funds

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

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.
JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.

Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator THIBODEAU of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Representative CURTIS of Madison and

Senators: ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, SHERMAN of Aroostook, THOMAS of Somerset, Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, CUSHING of Hampden, DAVIS of Sangerville, McKANE of Newcastle.

2	Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10105, sub-§8 is enacted to read:
3 4 5 6 7	8. Prohibition on use of funds. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the trust may not expend state funds on any energy efficiency or renewable energy program or project for a consumer that will result in any greater costs to that consumer, either in the short term or long term, regardless of the cost-effectiveness of the program or project with respect to the expenditure of the state funds.
8 9	Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10153, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 591, §1, is amended to read:
10 11 12	1. Energy savings improvement. "Energy savings improvement" means an improvement to qualifying property that, as determined by the trust, is new and permanently affixed to qualifying property and that:
13 14	A. Will result in increased energy efficiency and substantially reduced energy use and:
15 16 17	(1) Meets or exceeds applicable United States Environmental Protection Agency and United States Department of Energy Energy Star program or similar energy efficiency standards established or approved by the trust; or
18 19	(2) Involves weatherization of residential, commercial or industrial property in a manner approved by the trust; or
20 21	B. Involves a renewable energy installation or an electric thermal storage system that meets or exceeds standards established or approved by the trust-; or
22 23	C. Involves an upgrade of any heating equipment that will result in increased energy efficiency.
24	SUMMARY
25	This bill:
26 27 28	1. Prohibits the Efficiency Maine Trust from expending state funds on any energy efficiency or renewable energy program or project for a consumer that will result in any greater costs to that consumer; and
29 30 31	2. Modifies the definition of "energy savings improvement" under the PACE program to include an upgrade of any heating equipment that will result in increased energy efficiency.

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

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