

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SMG
ROPS

L.D. 1066

Date: 5/31/11

(Filing No. H-438)

Minority

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 801, L.D. 1066, Bill, "An Act To Increase Home Weatherization and Energy Independence"

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause and before section 1 the following:

'Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 656, Pt. C, §1, is amended to read:

D. In collaboration with other relevant state agencies, private industry and nonprofit organizations, collect and analyze energy data, including, but not limited to, data on energy supply, demand and costs in this State with consideration of all available energy sources. On a regular basis, the office shall provide a report to the Efficiency Maine Trust of the average price of heating fuels in this State pursuant to Title 35-A, section 10119, subsection 1-A, paragraph E;

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 1-A in the 2nd line (page 1, line 8 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "subsection." the following: 'For the purposes of this subsection, "heating fuel" means #2 heating oil, kerosene or propane.'

Amend the bill in section 2 in subsection 1-A by inserting after paragraph C the following:

'D. The trust shall by rule ensure that the proportion of total funds collected pursuant to this subsection that are expended on each program category established under subsection 2, paragraph B, subparagraph (1) is approximately equal to the cost directly or indirectly passed on to customers potentially eligible for benefits under those program categories.

E. The assessment on a heating fuel under this section must be suspended if the average price of that heating fuel is equal to or greater than 90% of the highest average price of that heating fuel in the State, as determined by the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security under Title 2, section 9, subsection 3, paragraph D. The assessment may not be reinstated until the average price of that heating fuel is equal to or less than 70% of the highest average price of that heating

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 fuel in the State as determined by the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and
2 Security.'

3 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
4 section number to read consecutively.

5 **SUMMARY**

6 This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, adds a safety valve
7 to the assessment on heating fuels by suspending the assessment when the average price
8 of the heating fuel, as determined by the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and
9 Security, is equal to or greater than 90% of the highest average price of that heating fuel
10 in the State. The assessment cannot be reinstated until the average price of the heating
11 fuel in the State is equal to or less than 70% of the highest average price of the heating
12 fuel in the State. The amendment also requires that each customer category is assigned
13 funding from the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund that is
14 approximately equal to the assessment value that was collected from that customer
15 category.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1066

LR 1504(02)

An Act To Increase Home Weatherization and Energy Independence

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2011-12	FY 2012-13	Projections FY 2013-14	Projections FY 2014-15
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$14,300,000	\$14,300,000	\$14,300,000	\$14,300,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Establishing a system benefit charge on #2 heating oil, kerosene and propane to support heating fuels efficiency and weatherization programs, including rebates for low-income households, will provide an estimated \$14,300,000 annually to the Efficiency Maine Trust (EMT) beginning in fiscal year 2011-12. The assessment on heating fuels will be suspended when the price of heating fuel is equal to or greater than 90% of the highest price in the state since 2005. The fiscal note assumes that the assessment will not be suspended during the time period shown above. Any additional costs to the EMT for new rulemaking and to the Maine State Housing Authority and to the Department of Health and Human Services to consult with the EMT can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.