

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1191

H.P. 882

House of Representatives, March 21, 2011

An Act To Encourage Business Development by Limiting the Time a Utility May Hold a Business Customer's Deposit

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative MacDONALD of Boothbay.
Cosponsored by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland and
Representatives: BEAVERS of South Berwick, BOLDUC of Auburn, DILL of Old Town,
KRUGER of Thomaston, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, PEOPLES of Westbrook, RUSSELL of
Portland, TREAT of Hallowell.

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §705, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 141, Pt. A, §6, is amended to read:

2. Nonresidential customers. Every public utility shall file with the commission schedules containing its terms and conditions for requiring a deposit from nonresidential customers, which terms and conditions shall be subject to the commission's power under this Title. Every public utility shall comply with its terms and conditions. A public utility may hold a deposit from a nonresidential customer for no longer than one year, after which time the deposit must be returned to the customer. The commission shall adopt rules ~~which that~~ provide a procedure for resolution by the commission or its delegate of disputes as to whether a deposit being required by a public utility is in compliance with its terms and conditions. If the rules authorize a delegate to resolve disputes, the rules ~~shall~~ must include a procedure for appeal of the decision to the commission.

SUMMARY

This bill provides that a public utility may hold a deposit from a nonresidential customer for no longer than one year, after which time the deposit must be returned to the customer.