

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6-2-11

(Filing No. S-225)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

125TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 396, L.D. 1275, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Activity of Certain Nonprofit Corporations"

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

'Resolve, To Promote Greater Transparency and Accountability through Regional Transmission Organization Reform'

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

Sec. 1. Policy promoting regional transmission organization transparency and accountability. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission, the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security and the Office of the Public Advocate shall advocate in all appropriate forums for greater transparency of governance and operations and accountability to consumers of the regional transmission organization affecting consumers of electricity in the State; and be it further

Sec. 2. Conference with other states' agencies and offices. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission, the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security and the Office of the Public Advocate shall confer, to the greatest extent possible, with each other and with comparable commissions or bodies from one or more of the other New England states regarding the transparency and accountability of the regional transmission organization, and shall develop a plan and act to promote governance transparency and accountability to consumers of the regional transmission organization. The Public Utilities Commission, the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security and the Office of the Public Advocate shall develop model governance requirements for the regional transmission organization, formally propose such model governance requirements to the comparable commissions or bodies in the other New England states and shall examine whether there is agreement on governance transparency and accountability among the various state entities; and be it further

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission shall report the results and recommendations under sections 1 and 2 to the joint standing committee of

1 the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters in its
2 annual report for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013. The committee may submit legislation
3 to the next session of the Legislature based on the report submitted by the commission
4 pursuant to this section.'

5 **SUMMARY**

6 This amendment directs the Public Utilities Commission, the Governor's Office of
7 Energy Independence and Security and the Office of the Public Advocate to confer with
8 comparable agencies in other states that are participants in the regional transmission
9 organization for New England to develop a plan to pursue transparency and
10 accountability at the regional transmission organization. It requires the Public Utilities
11 Commission, the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security and the Office
12 of the Public Advocate to develop model governance requirements for a regional
13 transmission organization and formally propose the model to comparable agencies in
14 other states. The commission must report on the progress of these efforts in its annual
15 report for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013.

16 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

17 (See attached)



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1275

LR 1857(02)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Activity of Certain Nonprofit Corporations

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" S - 225

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Directing the Public Utilities Commission, the Office of Public Advocate and the Office of Energy Independence and Security to advocate for greater transparency and accountability in appropriate forums on behalf of Maine electricity consumers who are affected by regional transmission organizations, to confer with comparable agencies in other New England states to develop a plan to pursue transparency and accountability at regional transmission organizations, to develop model governance requirements and formally propose the model in other states as well as requiring the PUC to report on the progress of the plan will result in minor increased costs that each agency can absorb within its respective existing budgeted resources.