

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 131

Date: 5/3/13

(Filing No. H- 121)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 106, L.D. 131, Bill, "An Act To Secure the Safety of Electrical Power Transmission Lines"

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

'Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Examine Measures To Mitigate the Effects of Geomagnetic Disturbances and Electromagnetic Pulse on the State's Transmission System'

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

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation has identified 2013 as a peak year of solar activity that could result in a geomagnetic disturbance; and

Whereas, the impact of a significant geomagnetic disturbance or electromagnetic pulse on the reliability of Maine's electric grid is unknown; and

Whereas, the Public Utilities Commission may be able to identify measures to protect Maine's electric grid through a focused examination; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Examination of vulnerabilities and mitigation. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission shall examine the vulnerabilities of the State's transmission infrastructure to the potential negative impacts of a geomagnetic disturbance or electromagnetic pulse capable of disabling, disrupting or destroying a transmission and distribution system and identify potential mitigation measures. In its examination, the commission shall:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 106, L.D. 131

1 Legislature based on the report. The amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause
2 to the bill.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

4

(See attached)



Approved: 04/24/13 *MAC*

126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 131

LR 11(02)

An Act To Secure the Safety of Electrical Power Transmission Lines

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

A (H-121)

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is directed to: (a) examine the vulnerabilities of Maine's transmission infrastructure to potential negative impacts of geomagnetic disturbances or electromagnetic pulses and identify potential mitigation measures; (b) monitor efforts by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and others to develop reliability standards related to geomagnetic disturbances and electromagnetic pulses; and (c) report back its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by January 20, 2014. The PUC has adequate available resources for the expenses related to the activities required.