

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Minority

L.D. 646

Date: 3/25/14

(Filing No. S- 453)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

126TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 237, L.D. 646, Bill, "An Act To Remove the 100-megawatt Limit on Renewable Sources of Energy"

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

**Sec. 3. Transition.** The Public Utilities Commission shall implement a temporary alternative renewable portfolio program. Under the alternative program the Public Utilities Commission shall direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into contracts for renewable energy credits in accordance with this section.

1. Renewable capacity resources as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3210, subsection 2, paragraph B-3 that were eligible, or were under review by the Public Utilities Commission for eligibility and were subsequently approved as eligible, for the purposes of the portfolio requirements under Title 35-A, section 3210, subsection 3-A from June 1, 2012 to June 1, 2013 may elect to participate in the alternative program. Notice of election to participate in the alternative program must be filed within 120 days following the effective date of this section.

2. The Public Utilities Commission shall direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into contracts for the renewable energy credits generated by renewable capacity resources that elect to participate under subsection 1. The contracts must value the renewable energy credits at an amount equal to the average renewable energy credit price from June 1, 2013 to June 1, 2014.

3. The Public Utilities Commission shall ensure that an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility recovers in rates all costs of contracts entered into pursuant to this section.

4. All contracts entered into pursuant to this section must expire December 31, 2017.

The Public Utilities Commission shall consider the renewable energy credits sold through contracts executed under this section as meeting the portfolio requirements under Title 35-A, section 3210, subsection 3-A. The Public Utilities Commission shall decrease those portfolio requirements on competitive electricity providers accordingly.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 The Public Utilities Commission may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules  
2 adopted under this section are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375,  
3 subchapter 2-A.'

4 **SUMMARY**

5 This amendment is the minority report. It establishes a temporary alternative  
6 renewable portfolio program for certain renewable capacity resources.

7 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

8 **(See attached)**



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 646

LR 537(02)

**An Act To Remove the 100-megawatt Limit on Renewable Sources of Energy**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-463)**

**Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to implement a temporary alternative renewable portfolio program directing investor-owned transmission and distribution companies that elect to participate to enter into contracts expiring December 31, 2017 for renewable energy credits. The PUC may adopt routine technical rules to implement this program. This bill also removes the 100-megawatt maximum capacity limit for sources of electrical generation to qualify as renewable resources to meet the State's renewable resource portfolio requirement. Any additional costs to the PUC for engaging in these activities are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.