

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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BME  
ROFS

L.D. 1501

Date: 6/11/13 Minority

(Filing No. H-460)

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. 1075, L.D. 1501, Bill, "An Act To Apply the Precautionary Principle to Decision Making in Certain State Agencies"

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

'An Act To Apply the Precautionary Principle to Decision Making in the Public Utilities Commission'

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

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRS §1324 is enacted to read:

§1324. Precautionary principle

In an adjudicatory proceeding, if the commission determines, after a review of the best scientific information available, there are reasonable grounds for concern that a proposed action that is the subject of the adjudicatory proceeding will result in serious or irreversible damage to the environment or human, animal or plant health, the commission may require, as a condition of approval of the proposed action, that all cost-effective measures be taken to prevent that damage. The commission may adopt routine technical rules as described in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to implement this section.

**Sec. 2. Application.** This Act applies only to adjudicatory proceedings of the Public Utilities Commission opened or initiated after the effective date of this Act.'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and replaces the bill. This amendment provides that, in an adjudicatory proceeding initiated after the effective date of this legislation, if the Public Utilities Commission determines, after a review of the best scientific information available, there are reasonable grounds for concern that a proposed action that is the subject of the adjudicatory proceeding will result in serious or irreversible damage to the environment or human, animal or plant health, the commission

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 may require, as a condition of approval of the proposed action, that all cost-effective  
2 measures be taken to prevent that damage.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1501

LR 1560(02)

**An Act To Apply the Precautionary Principle to Decision Making in Certain State Agencies**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment**

**Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

*A(H-460)*

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The additional burdens and associated costs of adding the precautionary principle to Public Utilities Commission adjudicatory proceedings can be absorbed by the commission utilizing existing budgeted resources.