

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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3114
R. O. B.

Date: 5/24/19 Majority (Filing No. H-369)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1016, L.D. 1401, Bill, "An Act To Study Transmission Solutions To Enable Renewable Energy Investment in the State"

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

'Resolve, To Study Transmission Solutions To Enable Renewable Energy Investment in the State'

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

Sec. 1. Renewable energy investment; stakeholder group. Resolved: That the Governor's Energy Office shall convene a stakeholder group to address transmission system needs and funding strategies to support renewable energy investment in the State. The stakeholder group, at a minimum, shall examine and make recommendations regarding:

1. Current constraints and barriers in the state and regional transmission systems that impede planning for and realizing increased renewable energy development and integration in the State and the impact of these current system limitations on existing renewable energy resources, including the ability to qualify for the sale of energy and capacity in the regional wholesale energy markets. The stakeholder group shall make recommendations for improving the capability of the in-state transmission system to meet in-state demand and to export excess supply for the purposes of optimizing existing renewable energy resources and promoting in-state and regional system reliability;

2. Transmission infrastructure investment solutions and system improvements to realize different renewable energy development scenarios. The stakeholder group shall examine a minimum of 4 different renewable energy development scenarios that vary by total generation capacity, resource type and site location, taking into consideration the impact on siting and ratepayers and the relative benefits of different scenarios for energy consumers, transmission costs, existing generators, developers of new renewable energy resources and the environment;

3. Opportunities for regional coordination to advance transmission solutions to support new renewable energy resource development in the State, including deployment

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

H. 63.

1 of new renewable energy resources capable of providing system reliability benefits to the
2 State and the region, with consideration of publicly available data and studies available
3 from ISO New England, Inc.; and

4 4. Potential funding sources and strategies, including bonding and public-private
5 partnerships, for renewable energy development.

6 The office shall invite to participate in the stakeholder group, at a minimum, a
7 representative of: the Public Utilities Commission; the Office of the Public Advocate;
8 ISO New England, Inc.; investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities; consumer-
9 owned transmission and distribution utilities; a statewide renewable energy association; a
10 statewide environmental organization; a statewide construction industry trade association;
11 community-scale renewable energy developers; grid-scale renewable energy developers;
12 existing renewable energy resource generators; large industrial electricity consumers; and
13 low-income electricity consumers.

14 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 15, 2019, the Governor's
15 Energy Office shall provide a report on the work of the stakeholder group to the Joint
16 Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. The report must include the
17 findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group regarding the issues listed in
18 section 1 and identify changes to law necessary to implement the recommendations. The
19 committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature
20 related to the report.'

21 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
22 section number to read consecutively.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve. The
25 amendment directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group to
26 examine and make recommendations regarding transmission system needs and solutions
27 to support renewable energy investment in the State. The amendment requires the
28 Governor's Energy Office to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities
29 and Technology by December 15, 2019 on the findings and recommendations of the
30 stakeholder group. The amendment authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the
31 Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report.

32 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

33 (See attached)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1401

LR 1431(02)

An Act To Study Transmission Solutions To Enable Renewable Energy Investment in the State

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A(H-369)*

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Governor's Energy Office to convene and report back on the findings of, or for the Public Utilities Commission and Office of the Public Advocate to participate in, a stakeholder group that will examine and make recommendations regarding the transmission system needs and solutions to support renewable energy investment in the State are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.