

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Ros 1

L.D. 385

Date: 6/3/21

(Filing No. H-371)

Majority
ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 269, L.D. 385, "An Act To Amend Conflicts in the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:
'An Act To Resolve Conflicts in and Make Other Changes to the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust'

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

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10104, sub-§4, ¶F, as amended by PL 2019, c. 313, §5 and c. 476, §4, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

F. It is an objective of the triennial plan to design, coordinate and integrate sustained energy efficiency and weatherization programs that are available to all energy consumers in the State and to users of all fuel types. The plan must set forth the costs and benefits of the trust's programs that advance the following goals and funding necessary to meet those goals:

- (1) Reducing energy costs, including residential heating costs;
- (2) For the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending January 1, 2030, weatherizing 35,000 homes and businesses, with at least 10,000 of such weatherization projects completed in low-income households through the combined efforts of the trust and the Maine State Housing Authority;
- (3) Reducing peak-load demand for electricity by the maximum achievable cost-effective amount;
- (4) Achieving the maximum achievable cost-effective electricity and natural gas program savings, as defined in and determined pursuant to the performance metrics approved by the commission under section 10120;
- (5) Creating stable private sector jobs providing alternative energy and energy efficiency products and services in the State;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 (6) Contributing to the effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the State by
2 amounts consistent with the greenhouse gas emission levels established in Title 38,
3 section 576-A and in a manner consistent with the State's climate action plan
4 adopted and updated under Title 38, section 577;

5 (7) Promoting the purchase of high-efficiency heat pump systems to achieve by
6 2030 the goal of at least 115,000 households in the State wholly heated by heat
7 pumps and an additional 130,000 households in the State partially heated by heat
8 pumps; and

9 (8) Promoting the purchase of battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles
10 to achieve by 2030 the goal of at least 120,000 such vehicles registered in the State.

11 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10104, sub-§4, ¶G,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 298, §21 and
12 c. 313, §5, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

13 G. In developing the triennial plan, or an annual update plan under subsection 6, the
14 trust may include, as part of its budget for electric efficiency and conservation
15 programs under section 10110, the costs of providing nonwires alternatives in
16 accordance with section 3132-D.

17 **Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §10104, sub-§4, ¶H** is enacted to read:

18 H. After the triennial plan is approved, the trust or any party to the triennial plan may
19 petition for, or the commission may initiate on its own, consideration of revising the
20 calculations of avoided energy costs used in the determination of maximum achievable
21 cost-effective energy efficiency resources pursuant to section 10110, subsection 4-A
22 or section 10111, subsection 2 upon a showing that, subsequent to the publication of
23 the avoided energy cost study relied upon, changes in price forecasts would result in
24 more than a 25% change in the value of avoided energy cost affecting a significant
25 portion of the program activity in the triennial plan.

26 **Sec. 4. 35-A MRSA §10110, sub-§1, ¶C,** as amended by PL 2019, c. 306, §4 and
27 c. 365, §2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

28 C. "Conservation programs" means programs developed by the trust pursuant to this
29 section designed to reduce inefficient electricity use or to increase the efficiency with
30 which electricity is used.

31 **Sec. 5. 35-A MRSA §10110, sub-§4-A, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2019, c. 306, §5
32 and c. 313, §8, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

33 A. Consider electric energy efficiency resources that are reasonably foreseeable to be
34 acquired by the trust using the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund under
35 section 10109, federal or state grants or settlement funds designated by the board for
36 programs implemented under this section, except that forward capacity market
37 payments deposited in the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund
38 established in section 10119 may not be considered;

39 **Sec. 6. 35-A MRSA §10113,** as enacted by PL 2009, c. 372, Pt. B, §3, is amended
40 to read:

41 **§10113. Training for installers of solar energy equipment**

1 **1. Installation training.** To the extent that funds and resources allow, the trust ~~shall~~
2 may establish training programs for installers of solar energy equipment that most
3 effectively meet the needs of the public. The trust:

4 A. May develop separate programs for different solar energy technologies or
5 applications services when the trust determines that the skills or training for the
6 installation of those technologies or applications services merit the distinction;

7 A-1. May offer training programs to code enforcement officers, inspectors or other
8 professionals involved in designing, marketing, regulating or educating about energy
9 equipment;

10 A-2. May offer training programs to contractors or other professionals involved in
11 designing, installing or constructing energy efficiency, weatherization or other building
12 performance measures for homes and businesses;

13 B. Shall confer with ~~the Plumbers' Examining Board and the Electricians' Examining~~
14 Board relevant professional licensing boards and the Technical Building Codes and
15 Standards Board under Title 10, section 9722 when it develops the course content and
16 requirements;

17 C. Shall determine the content of the training, the hours required for course completion
18 and the manner in which applicants must demonstrate proficiency in solar energy
19 equipment installation;

20 D. ~~Shall~~ May issue a certificate of completion to individuals who meet the
21 requirements the trust has established;

22 E. May establish reasonable course fees. All fees must be paid to the ~~Treasurer of State~~
23 trust to be used ~~by the trust~~ for the purposes of this section;

24 F. Shall determine terms for the expiration and renewal of an applicant's certificate of
25 completion; and

26 G. Shall determine an appropriate means of maintaining recognition of the training
27 received by persons holding certificates issued pursuant to former section 10002 or
28 former Title 32, chapter 87.

29 **2. Qualifications for installing solar energy equipment.** A certificate of completion
30 issued by the trust pursuant to subsection 1 does not exempt the holder from any applicable
31 licensing requirements for activities involved in installing solar energy equipment,
32 including but not limited to licensing requirements established in Title 32, chapter 17 or
33 49.

34 **3. Effective date.** This section takes effect July 1, 2010.'

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

SUMMARY

37 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill, which
38 is a concept draft. The amendment does the following.
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40 1. It reconciles a number of conflicts in the Efficiency Maine Trust Act created through
41 the enactment of different legislation during the 129th Legislature.

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- 2. It provides as goals for the Efficiency Maine Trust:
 - A. The weatherization by 2030 of 35,000 homes and businesses, with at least 10,000 of such projects completed in low-income households through the combined efforts of the trust and the Maine State Housing Authority;
 - B. The promotion of the purchase of high-efficiency heat pump systems to achieve by 2030 the goal of at least 115,000 households in the State wholly heated by heat pumps and an additional 130,000 households in the State partially heated by heat pumps; and
 - C. The promotion of the purchase of battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles to achieve by 2030 the goal of at least 120,000 such vehicles registered in the State.
- 3. It broadens the existing authorization for the trust to establish training programs for installers of solar energy equipment to include energy equipment generally. It also authorizes the trust to offer training programs to code enforcement officers, inspectors or other professionals involved in designing, marketing, regulating or educating about energy equipment and to offer training programs to contractors or other professionals involved in designing, installing or constructing energy efficiency, weatherization or other building performance measures for homes and businesses.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 385

LR 1533(02)

An Act To Amend Conflicts in the Laws Governing the Efficiency Maine Trust

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-371)
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Efficiency Maine Trust

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Efficiency Maine Trust as a result of technical and grammatical changes to the laws governing its activities to resolve conflicts created by previously enacted legislation are anticipated to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.