

Date 5-17-23

Minority

(Filing No H-152)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND
BUSINESS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to HP 73, L D 105, "An Act to Prohibit
Minimum Usage or Tank Rental Fees for Certain Propane Customers"

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

**'An Act to Require Propane Companies to Notify Customers of Minimum Usage or
Tank Rental Fees'**

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

'Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1661-D is enacted to read

§1661-D. Propane gas; minimum usage or tank rental fees

1. Notice required. A retail seller of propane gas that charges a minimum usage fee or
tank rental fee for a rental propane tank shall, prior to providing a rental propane tank to a
customer, provide the customer with written notice that the seller charges such a fee, the
amount of the fee and the frequency at which the fee will be charged. In the case of a
minimum usage fee, a retail seller shall also provide the customer with written notice of
the amount of propane the customer must use in order to avoid being charged the fee.

2. Changes to fees. A retail seller of propane gas that has provided written notice under
subsection 1 to a customer under this section shall also provide the customer with written
notice at least 30 days prior to changing the amount of the fee, the frequency at which the
fee will be charged or the amount of propane the customer must use in order to avoid being
charged the fee.

3. Change of ownership. If the ownership of a residential dwelling serviced by a retail
seller of propane gas changes, the retail seller of propane gas may not charge any fee to the
new owner of the residential dwelling unless the new owner agrees to accept services from
the retail seller of propane gas and the retail seller of propane gas provides the new owner
of the residential dwelling with the notices required under subsection 1.

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

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment requires a
5 retail seller of propane gas to notify customers in writing if the seller charges a minimum
6 usage fee or tank rental fee and prohibits the seller from changing the fee without first
7 notifying the customer in writing. It also requires a retail seller of propane gas, upon a
8 change of ownership over a residential dwelling serviced by the retail seller, to verify that
9 the new owner of the residential dwelling agrees to accept services from the retail seller of
10 propane gas.

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



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 105

LR 638(02)

An Act to Prohibit Minimum Usage or Tank Rental Fees for Certain Propane Customers

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-152)
Committee: Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund
Minor revenue increase - General Fund
Minor revenue increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statements

The additional workload associated with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system does not require additional funding at this time

The collection of additional fine revenue will increase General Fund and dedicated revenue by minor amounts