

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
June 19, 2018 to September 13, 2018

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
DECEMBER 13, 2018

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 5, 2018 to June 20, 2019

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2019

the regional adjustment for school administrative units under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. The study must include an update of the data that is used to calculate the regional adjustment to reflect the current economic environment and must include an analysis of how any adjustment to, or removal of, the regional adjustment in the funding formula would affect all school administrative units. The department shall submit the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs no later than January 15, 2020. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective June 17, 2019.

CHAPTER 71

H.P. 1275 - L.D. 1796

Resolve, To Study Transmission Grid Reliability and Rate Stability in Northern Maine

Sec. 1. Convene stakeholder group. Resolved: That the Governor's Energy Office shall convene a stakeholder group to identify and develop strategies to address the transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory. The stakeholder group must consist of representatives of:

1. The Governor's Energy Office;
2. The Public Utilities Commission;
3. The Office of the Public Advocate;
4. The Northern Maine Independent System Administrator;
5. A municipal government in northern Maine;
6. A large industrial electric utility customer located in northern Maine;
7. A trade association representing businesses located in northern Maine;
8. A trade association representing the forest products industry;
9. An investor-owned transmission and distribution utility serving northern Maine;
10. Two different consumer-owned transmission and distribution utilities located in northern Maine; and

11. An energy generator located in northern Maine.

Sec. 2. Review and recommendations. Resolved: That, in its review of transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory, the stakeholder group convened pursuant to section 1 shall, at minimum, address and develop recommendations concerning:

1. The continued need to assess reliability in the northern Maine service territory;
2. The shutdown of biomass plants in the region, such as those in Fort Fairfield and Ashland, that have in the past been essential to addressing reliability concerns;
3. The region's fuel security, competitive supply and rate volatility resulting from its reliance on generation resources in the region; and
4. Opportunities for transmission and nontransmission alternatives to address the current and projected reliability and rate stability needs of the region.

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That, no later than March 1, 2020, the stakeholder group shall submit to the Governor's Energy Office a report establishing the scope and priority of transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability issues for the northern Maine service territory, together with recommendations. The report must address the concerns identified in section 2 and recommend strategies that respond to those issues, including any recommended changes to the law or to the rules of the Public Utilities Commission. The Governor's Energy Office shall submit the report, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. Upon receipt and review of the report, the joint standing committee may report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 72

S.P. 559 - L.D. 1694

Resolve, To Determine Compliance with Federal and State Mental Health Parity Laws

Sec. 1. Determination of compliance with federal and state mental health parity laws. Resolved: That the Superintendent of Insurance shall determine the compliance of health insurance carriers in this State with the federal Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 and the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 24,