

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 2, 2020 to March 30, 2021

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
April 28, 2021 to July 19, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
OCTOBER 18, 2021

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

Augusta, Maine
2021

corridors over which there are no ongoing rail operations or contracts or agreements providing for operational rights. An evaluation conducted under this section must include the likelihood, benefits and costs of foreseeable restoration of the rail corridor for rail use and interim trail use consistent with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, chapter 615.

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall submit a report containing the active transportation plan developed under section 1 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters no later than January 18, 2023.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 62

S.P. 465 - L.D. 1415

Resolve, To Direct the Department of Environmental Protection To Determine Staffing Needs To More Efficiently and Effectively Issue Decisions on New, Amendment and Minor Revision Applications

Sec. 1. Staffing resources determination. Resolved: That the Department of Environmental Protection shall determine the staffing resources necessary to efficiently and effectively review new permit applications submitted under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 420-D and Title 38, chapter 3, subchapter 1, articles 5-A and 6 and to issue decisions on amendment and minor revision applications submitted under those same laws within timetables that are no longer than those established by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection pursuant to Title 38, section 344-B, subsection 1 for new permit applications submitted under those same laws.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by November 1, 2021, the Department of Environmental Protection shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources on the outcome of the staffing resources determination undertaken pursuant to section 1. The committee may report out a bill to the 130th Legislature based on the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 63

H.P. 1237 - L.D. 1666

Resolve, To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Issue a Request for Information on a Statewide, Multiple-use Online Energy Data Platform

Preamble. Whereas, in order to implement comprehensive energy management and efficiency programs, it is necessary to provide customers and other stakeholders with safe, secure access to information about energy usage in homes, businesses and municipalities; and

Whereas, access to energy data is a foundational element for moving the State's natural gas and electric systems to a more efficient paradigm in which empowering customers is a critical element; and

Whereas, by enabling the aggregation of and removal of personally identifiable information from community-level energy data and requiring a consent-driven process for access to or sharing of customer-level energy usage data, as proposed by this legislation, the State can open the door to innovative business applications that will save customers money and allow for better use of the electricity grid and other utility services; and

Whereas, a multiple-use online energy data platform will enable both the private and the public sectors to plan and implement energy programs including energy efficiency, distributed generation, energy storage and transmission and distribution improvements that will help reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in accordance with emissions reduction goals established in law; and

Whereas, implementation of a multiple-use online energy data platform is essential to achieving the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals established by the State and by municipalities; and

Whereas, information about energy usage is currently held by individual utility companies with varying capabilities to share data, directly affecting customer and stakeholder access to quality energy data; and

Whereas, a centralized online energy data platform with defined standards regarding aggregation, data privacy and data security will create administrative and operational efficiencies for all customers and stakeholders involved in the energy sector; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Public Utilities Commission evaluation of statewide, multiple-use online energy data platform. Resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission shall issue a request for information to evaluate the feasibility of the commission's establishing and operating a statewide, multiple-use online energy