

# 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.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2021**

data platform, referred to in this section as "the platform," that will provide natural gas and electric utility customers with safe, secure access to information about their energy usage and will allow for the aggregation of and removal of personally identifiable information from community-level energy data. In issuing a request for information on the feasibility of the platform under this section, the commission shall define the relationships among the various categories of data to be included in the platform. The request for information must require that the platform:

1. Consist of a common base of energy data for use in a wide range of applications and business uses;
2. Adhere to specific and well-documented standards for data accuracy, retention, availability, privacy and security;
3. Allow 3rd-party access to customer energy data;
4. Allow for the sharing of individual customer energy data and provide an opt-in option for utility customers when sharing data with 3rd parties;
5. Protect utility customers from unauthorized disclosure of personally identifiable information and ensure customer privacy rights;
6. Provide for the voluntary participation of consumer-owned transmission and distribution utilities and municipal power districts; and
7. Meet the requirements for certification from the Green Button Alliance and support the Green Button "Connect My Data" standard and the energy service provider interface of the North American Energy Standards Board.

The request for information must include an evaluation of a platform that would be funded through the assessment of a fee to be collected by utilities on their customers and transferred to the commission. In evaluating the feasibility of establishing and operating the platform, the commission shall require consideration of online energy data platforms being used in other states. After receiving information, the commission shall evaluate whether the creation, operation and management of the platform can be performed by the commission or whether all or part of the creation, management or operation of the platform would need to be performed by a 3rd party. The commission shall allow public comment on the request for information.

**Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, by January 31, 2022, the Public Utilities Commission shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology that includes the results of the evaluation required under section 1. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 64  
S.P. 562 - L.D. 1709**

**Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Examine and Develop a Program Promoting Home Ownership by Reducing Education Debt**

**Sec. 1. Maine State Housing Authority to examine and develop a program for home ownership by reducing education debt. Resolved:** That the Maine State Housing Authority, in consultation with the Finance Authority of Maine, shall examine programs that promote home ownership by reducing borrowers' education debt and shall develop such a program, including statutory language and budgetary requirements, for implementation in the State. In examining such programs, the Maine State Housing Authority, in consultation with the Finance Authority of Maine, shall consider, but is not limited to considering:

1. The total amount of student loan debt that could be reduced and the average amount of individuals' student loan debt in relation to the average purchase price of a home;
2. The minimum amount of student loan debt an individual must have to qualify to participate in such programs;
3. Whether a program participant is required to pay off any remaining student loan debt;
4. The financial process for reducing student loan debt through the purchase of a home;
5. Whether a program participant is required to remain in the home for a certain period of time;
6. A program participant's credit score;
7. The requirements a program participant must meet for assistance in making a down payment; and
8. Any other requirements necessary for a program participant to qualify for assistance with a home mortgage through such programs.

**Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Maine State Housing Authority shall submit a report, including suggested legislation with statutory language and budgetary requirements, with the authority's proposal for a program promoting home ownership by reducing education debt to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters by December 1, 2021. The joint standing committee may report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

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