

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY,
UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1025 An Act To Support Arrearage Management Programs through Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits Derived from Net Energy Billing Arrangements

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 370 requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt routine technical rules requiring that, no earlier than April 1, 2022, each transmission and distribution utility with a net energy billing arrangement account for and, on or before January 1st of each year, apply all unused kilowatt-hour credits that were accumulated and expired in the prior calendar year for the benefit of participants in the utility's arrearage management program implemented pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3214, subsection 2-A.

LD 1053 An Act To Allow Microgrids That Are in the Public Interest

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 236 directs the Public Utilities Commission to approve a petition to construct and operate a new microgrid if the commission finds the proposal to be in the public interest and the new microgrid meets other specified requirements. It requires that any new distributed energy sources constructed after the effective date of this law for a new microgrid must be a renewable capacity resource or a renewable resource. It provides the commission with the ability to impose such terms, conditions or requirements as, in its judgment, it considers necessary in approving a new microgrid and also gives the commission oversight to ensure reliability and security of the electrical grid and consumer protections for new microgrid consumers. It specifies that a new microgrid does not become a public utility solely as a result of its furnishing electrical service to participating consumers. It also directs the commission to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters by January 7, 2023.

The law requires that, beginning in 2025, the commission must submit information regarding microgrids in its annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public utilities.

LD 1100 An Act To Support the Continued Access to Solar Energy and Battery Storage by Maine Homes and Businesses

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 264 requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules related to the interconnection of renewable capacity resources using solar power to investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities in a manner that supports the goals in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3474. It also directs the commission to contract with an expert to