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

evaluate near-term reforms to the State's interconnection standards, practices and procedures related to renewable capacity resources using solar power.

LD 1306 Resolve, To Facilitate the Inclusion of Crisis Response Services in Emergency Services Offered through the E-9-1-1 System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 29 directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communications Bureau to research and review protocols and procedures necessary to ensure the delivery of crisis response services under the State's E-9-1-1 system and to submit a report on or before February 1, 2022 to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology outlining necessary protocols and procedures and including any recommendations needed to implement those protocols and procedures. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee may report out related legislation to the 130th Legislature. It also provides a one-time allocation for consulting services.

LD 1328 An Act To Protect Maine Electricity Customers from Threats of Disconnection in the Wintertime

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 347 prohibits the use by a transmission and distribution utility of a notice or communication to a residential customer in the winter months that threatens disconnection on a specified date or within a specified time period unless the utility already has permission for the disconnection from the consumer assistance and safety division within the Public Utilities Commission. It also requires that any notice that in any way mentions disconnection during the winter months also state prominently that disconnection cannot take place without the advance permission of the consumer assistance and safety division and that the customer will be notified and heard. It also specifies that the notice permitted to be sent to a residential customer from a transmission and distribution utility during the disconnection prohibition period is deemed a notice of disconnection for the purpose of establishing eligibility for certain emergency assistance programs. A violation of these requirements subjects the utility to a penalty of up to \$2,500 per violation payable to the affected customer, in addition to any other remedies to which the customer may be legally entitled.