

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

STAFF:

DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
DANIEL TARTAKOFF, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

MEMBERS:

SEN. MARK W. LAWRENCE, CHAIR
SEN. ELOISE A. VITELLI
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III

REP. SETH A. BERRY, CHAIR
REP. SCOTT W. CUDDY
REP. NICOLE GROHOSKI
REP. CHRISTOPHER J. KESSLER
REP. STANLEY PAIGE ZEIGLER, JR.
REP. BARBARA A. WOOD
REP. NATHAN J. WADSWORTH
REP. CHAD WAYNE GRIGNON
REP. STEVEN D. FOSTER
REP. NATHAN MICHAEL CARLOW

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 1431 An Act To Allow Certain Veterans' Organizations To Be Billed for Electricity Usage at the Same Rate as Residential Customers and To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Consider Rate Design Modifications

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 244 requires a transmission and distribution utility to treat an eligible military veterans' organization as a residential customer if that organization requests to be billed as a residential customer, for the purpose of billing for electric power or service provided to a facility owned or rented by that organization if that organization is billed directly for electric power or service. It establishes a repeal date for this provision of September 1, 2025. It also requires the Public Utilities Commission in its grid modernization proceeding to consider rate design modifications, including adjustments to fixed charges and demand charges.

LD 1432 An Act To Update the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 362 amends the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund as follows:

1. It limits grants under the fund to a municipality or group of municipalities;
2. It provides definitions of "gigabit fiber-optic network," "symmetrical high-speed Internet" and "open-access network" and requires the ConnectMaine Authority, beginning in 2025, to establish minimum upload and download speeds for a symmetrical high-speed Internet at least equal to the minimum upload and download speeds available to a majority of urban census blocks in the United States;
3. It removes the cap on the amount of each grant, but limits the amount of ConnectMaine funds that may be used to 50% of the total cost of a project;
4. It maintains the requirement that a municipality provide at least a 25% cash match but provides that the cash match may not consist of funds from a source other than the municipality; and
5. It removes specific reporting requirements for applicants, instead requiring them to meet application requirements established by the authority.