MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 132^{ND} 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

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LD 597 An Act to Direct the Public Utilities Commission to Conduct Procurements for Energy or Renewable Energy Credits

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 392 amends the section of law requiring the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a renewable energy procurement to direct the commission to conduct a competitive solicitation for energy or renewable energy credits within 30 days of enactment of the law. The commission may initiate an additional competitive solicitation within 12 months of the first solicitation. To find that a contract will benefit ratepayers, the commission must determine that the contract is more likely than not to produce benefits to ratepayers that exceed the costs to ratepayers associated with the contract.

The law also requires the commission to conduct one competitive solicitation to procure energy or renewable energy credits from eligible Class IA resources in an amount equal to 5% of the retail electricity sales in this State for the period from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, as determined by the commission. If the commission concludes that the solicitation is not competitive or, following a review of bids received, that approval of a contract or contracts is not in the public interest, the commission must decide not to award a contract.

An energy contract resulting from a competitive solicitation conducted by the commission must include a provision that requires payments under the contract to the bidder be reduced by the stranded costs arising from energy produced during negative price intervals. The commission may grant an exception from the inclusion of such a negative price provision if the bidder demonstrates good cause and the commission finds that the contract is cost-effective, includes other price protections for ratepayers and will avoid to the maximum extent possible that curtailment of existing renewable resource generators.

Public Law 2025, chapter 392 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 20, 2025.

LD 633 An Act Concerning the Restoration of Electricity During Emergencies for Certain Medically Vulnerable Individuals Who Rely on Electronic Medical Apparatuses

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 36 requires investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to include in their emergency response plans procedures for the identification of and outreach plans regarding customers who have a documented need of electricity for essential medical equipment.