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Date: (Filing No. S-)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 756, L.D. 1949, “An Act Regarding Energy Fairness”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §103-B is enacted to read:

§103-B. Affordability impact considerations

In executing its duties, powers and regulatory functions under this Title, the commission, while ensuring system reliability, shall consider the impact on affordability for residential customers.

Sec. 2. Credit and collection data; publication. The Public Utilities Commission shall publish on its publicly accessible website data regarding credit and collection activities of a transmission and distribution utility with more than 50,000 customers that is submitted to the commission by the utility in accordance with rules adopted by the commission pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 704, subsection 1. The commission shall ensure that the data is provided on the commission's publicly accessible website in a clear and transparent manner.

Sec. 3. Comprehensive review of electric delivery rates. The Public Utilities Commission shall conduct a comprehensive review of each component of electric delivery rates. In conducting the review required pursuant to this section, the commission shall consider whether changes to the current design and composition of electric delivery rates could be implemented to, at a minimum:

- 1. Contain customer costs;
- 2. Reduce transmission and distribution utility bill volatility; and
- 3. Increase transmission and distribution utility bill transparency.

The commission shall engage stakeholders in the review process under this section and solicit stakeholder feedback. By January 31, 2027, the commission shall submit an interim

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy
2 matters informing the committee of its work to date on the comprehensive review. By
3 December 15, 2027, the commission shall submit a final report regarding its comprehensive
4 review, including any recommendations or proposed legislation, to the joint standing
5 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters. The committee may
6 report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

7 **Sec. 4. Affordability metric development.** The Public Utilities Commission
8 shall develop an affordability metric to be used to assess the impact of electricity bills on
9 the overall energy burden for residential customers of an investor-owned transmission and
10 distribution utility. By January 15, 2027, the commission shall submit an interim report on
11 the commission's progress under this section to the joint standing committee of the
12 Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters. The commission shall submit a final
13 report by December 15, 2027 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
14 jurisdiction over energy matters regarding the development of an affordability metric under
15 this section, along with any recommendations or proposed legislation, if necessary. The
16 committee may report out a bill related to the final report to the Second Regular Session of
17 the 133rd Legislature.'

18 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
19 number to read consecutively.

20 SUMMARY

21 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment:

22 1. Requires the Public Utilities Commission, in executing its duties, powers and
23 regulatory functions under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, while ensuring system
24 reliability, to consider the impact on affordability for residential customers;

25 2. Requires the commission to publish on its publicly accessible website data regarding
26 credit and collection activities of a transmission and distribution utility with more than
27 50,000 customers that is submitted to the commission by the utility in accordance with
28 commission rules. The commission must ensure that the data is provided in a clear and
29 transparent manner;

30 3. Requires the commission to conduct a comprehensive review of each component of
31 electric delivery rates. In conducting the review, the commission must consider, at a
32 minimum, options that aim to contain customer costs in electric delivery rates, reduce
33 transmission and distribution utility bill volatility and increase transmission and
34 distribution utility bill transparency; and

35 4. Requires the commission to develop an affordability metric to be used to assess the
36 impact of electricity bills on the overall energy burden for residential customers of an
37 investor-owned transmission and distribution utility. By January 15, 2027, the commission
38 must submit an interim report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
39 jurisdiction over energy matters and submit a final report to the committee by December
40 15, 2027.

41 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

42 (See attached)