



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1675

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H.P. 1110

House of Representatives, April 17, 2025

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**An Act to Provide Just Compensation in Cases of Taking by  
Eminent Domain by Transmission and Distribution Utilities**

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Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLYNN of Albion.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: COLLINS of Sidney, FOSTER of Dexter, MCINTYRE of Lowell, MORRIS of Turner, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3136, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 644, §3, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Land necessary for location of transmission lines carrying 5,000 volts.** Subject  
5 to approval by the commission under subsection 4 and the requirements of subsection 6  
6 6-A, if applicable, a transmission and distribution utility may take and hold by right of  
7 eminent domain lands and easements necessary for the proper location of its transmission  
8 lines that are designed to carry voltages of 5,000 volts or more and of necessary  
9 appurtenances, located within the territory in which the utility is authorized to do public  
10 utility business, in the same manner and under the same conditions as set forth in chapter  
11 65. Notwithstanding section 6501, subsection 1 and section 6507, subsection 4, owners are  
12 entitled to damages for all property taken by eminent domain in accordance with subsection  
13 5 6-A.

14 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3136, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 644, §5, is repealed.

15 **Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §3136, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 644, §6, is repealed.

16 **Sec. 4. 35-A MRSA §3136, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

17 **6-A. Owner entitled to damages.** The owner of a property taken by eminent domain  
18 by a transmission and distribution utility for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of a  
19 transmission line is entitled to damages to be paid by the transmission and distribution  
20 utility in the form of an annual installment over the course of 20 years from the operation  
21 date of the transmission line. The transmission and distribution utility shall set aside 1% of  
22 the total revenue generated from the construction, rebuilding or relocation of a transmission  
23 line annually to be paid as damages to the owner of a property taken by eminent domain  
24 for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of that transmission line. The 1% of the  
25 revenue set aside for damages must be distributed to property owners based on the acres of  
26 property taken from that owner for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of the  
27 transmission line.

28 **Sec. 5. 35-A MRSA §3136, sub-§8**, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 644, §8, is repealed.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill updates the laws regarding damages paid to owners of property taken by  
31 eminent domain by a transmission and distribution utility for the construction, rebuilding  
32 or relocation of a transmission line. The bill requires a transmission and distribution utility  
33 to set aside 1% of the total revenue generated from the construction, rebuilding or  
34 relocation of a transmission line annually to be paid as damages to the owner of a property  
35 taken by eminent domain for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of that transmission  
36 line. The 1% of the revenue set aside for damages must be distributed to property owners  
37 based on the acres of property taken from that owner for the construction, rebuilding or  
38 relocation of the transmission line in the form of an annual installment over the course of  
39 20 years from the operation date of the transmission line.