



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

---

Legislative Document

No. 2067

---

H.P. 1330

House of Representatives, December 18, 2023

**An Act to Make Permanent the Arrearage Management Program  
for Low-income Residential Electricity Customers**

(EMERGENCY)

---

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 14, 2023. Referred to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FOSTER of Dexter.

1 **Emergency preamble.** **Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** the current laws governing arrearage management programs are repealed  
4 September 30, 2024; and

5 **Whereas,** this legislation proposes to indefinitely continue transmission and  
6 distribution utilities' arrearage management programs for low-income residential  
7 customers; and

8 **Whereas,** to prevent the repeal of current laws governing arrearage management  
9 programs, this legislation must take effect immediately; and

10 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
11 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
12 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
13 therefore,

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

15 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3214, sub-§2-A,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 101, §1, is  
16 further amended by repealing the last blocked paragraph.

17 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10110, sub-§2, ¶L,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 101, §2, is  
18 further amended by repealing the first blocked paragraph.

19 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
20 takes effect when approved.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill makes permanent the provisions of law governing arrearage management  
23 programs implemented by transmission and distribution utilities to assist eligible low-  
24 income residential customers who are in arrears on their electricity bills by eliminating the  
25 future repeal of these provisions.