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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. 371, L.D. 838, “An Act to Explore Public Financing and Ownership of Electric Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Options for Public Financing of Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure, Generation Projects and Energy Storage Projects'

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

'Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission to Study Options for Public Financing of Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure, Generation Projects and Energy Storage Projects, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 13 members as follows:

- 1. Five members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:
 - A. Two members of the Senate, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;
 - B. One member representing an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility in the State;
 - C. One member representing the New England independent system operator; and
 - D. One member representing small private landowners in the State;
- 2. Five members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows:
 - A. Two members of the House of Representatives, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

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- 1 B. One individual representing a group that represents organized labor engaged in the
- 2 building trades;
- 3 C. One member with expertise in the issuance of public bonds; and
- 4 D. One member representing the Wabanaki Alliance;
- 5 3. The Commissioner of Energy Resources or the commissioner's designee;
- 6 4. The chair of the Public Utilities Commission or the chair's designee; and
- 7 5. The Public Advocate or the Public Advocate's designee.

8 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
9 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
10 commission.

11 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all
12 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
13 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
14 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
15 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more
16 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
17 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for
18 the commission to meet and conduct its business.

19 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall:

20 1. Review any reports commissioned by the Department of Energy Resources related
21 to public development and public lending in the energy sector issued after January 1, 2026
22 and, to the greatest extent practicable, consider the findings in the report as it conducts its
23 work;

24 2. Identify and evaluate governmental and quasi-governmental entities established in
25 this State and other states that:

26 A. Oversee the financing for the build-out of transmission and distribution
27 infrastructure, generation projects and energy storage projects; and

28 B. Issue revenue bonds and provide public financing for transmission and distribution
29 infrastructure, generation projects and energy storage projects;

30 3. Examine approaches to public financing used by other states, including an evaluation
31 of challenges, advantages and disadvantages of public financing of transmission and
32 distribution infrastructure, generation projects and energy storage projects;

33 4. Evaluate the types of projects for which a governmental or quasi-governmental
34 entity could provide financing to most effectively reduce costs for ratepayers, including,
35 but not limited to, transmission and distribution infrastructure, generation projects and
36 energy storage projects;

37 5. Determine what labor standards would be appropriate for projects for which a
38 governmental or quasi-governmental entity could provide financing, including, but not
39 limited to, transmission and distribution infrastructure, generation projects and energy
40 storage projects, to ensure that those projects provide high-quality jobs and apprenticeship
41 opportunities for workers in the State and prioritize project worker safety;

