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Date: (Filing No. S-)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 372, L.D. 839, “An Act to Lower Consumer Electricity Costs by Prohibiting the Recovery Through Rates of Costs Attributable to Net Energy Billing”

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

'An Act to Create the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund'

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

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3209-F is enacted to read:

§3209-F. Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund

1. Fund established. There is established the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," as an account within the commission. The fund is a nonlapsing, revolving fund administered by the commission for the purpose of offsetting the costs to ratepayers associated with the net energy billing program under section 3209-A and section 3209-B.

2. Sources for fund. The commission may receive and deposit in the fund funds from the following sources:

A. Federal funds and awards that may be used for the purposes specified in this section;

B. Appropriations and transfers authorized by the Legislature; and

C. Any other funds from public or private sources received for the purposes of this section.

3. Use of funds. To the extent that funds are available, the commission shall use the fund exclusively to make payments to reimburse transmission and distribution utilities for any costs incurred as a result of the net energy billing program under section 3209-A and section 3209-B that would have otherwise been paid by ratepayers.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **4. Rules.** The commission may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted
2 pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
3 subchapter 2-A.

4 **5. Report.** By February 1st of any year in which the commission has paid a
5 reimbursement from the fund to a transmission and distribution utility in the prior calendar
6 year, the commission shall provide a report to the joint standing committee of the
7 Legislature having jurisdiction over electricity matters that includes the amount of the
8 reimbursement paid in the prior calendar year, the source of any funds received by the fund
9 in the prior calendar year and any other relevant information as determined by the
10 commission. The committee may report out a bill related to the commission's report.

11 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
12 allocations are made.

13 **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

14 **Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund N540**

15 Initiative: Provides one-time funding for the purpose of making payments to transmission
16 and distribution utilities that would have otherwise been paid by ratepayers.

17	GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
18	All Other	\$500	\$0
19			
20	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$0

21 ' ,

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

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. It establishes the Net Energy
26 Billing Cost Stabilization Fund within the Public Utilities Commission. It provides that the
27 fund must be used to reimburse a transmission and distribution utility for any costs incurred
28 as a result of the State's net energy billing programs that would have otherwise been paid
29 by ratepayers. It requires the commission to submit to the joint standing committee of the
30 Legislature having jurisdiction over electricity matters a report that includes information
31 about funds received by the fund and used for reimbursements for any year in which the
32 commission pays reimbursements through the fund. It authorizes the commission to adopt
33 rules to implement the requirements of the legislation. It includes a \$500 appropriation for
34 the Net Energy Billing Cost Stabilization Fund.

35 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

36 **(See attached)**