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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 858, L.D. 2140, “An Act to Reduce Household Energy Costs in Response to Federal Cuts”

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

'Resolve, to Establish a Demand Response Program to Lower Electric Bills and Improve Grid Reliability'

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

'Sec. 1. Demand response program; established. Resolved: That the Efficiency Maine Trust, referred to in this resolve as "the trust," currently administering behind-the-meter demand management programs in the State, shall establish the demand response program, referred to in this resolve as "the program," to encourage electricity customers to reduce their consumption of electricity during periods of peak demand to help lower their electric bills and improve grid reliability. The trust shall administer the program through the end of fiscal year 2027-28. The trust may extend the program beyond that date, in its discretion, if such an extension is proposed and approved in the trust's next triennial plan pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10104, subsection 4.

Sec. 2. Savings and reliability through reduction of peak demand. Resolved: That, as a part of the program, the trust shall develop an outreach and education campaign to increase participation in the State's transmission and distribution utilities opt-in time-of-use rates to encourage shifting electricity consumption to off-peak periods. The trust may not require an electricity customer to participate in the program. The program must be designed to focus on savings opportunities most appropriate for the State's electrical loads, grid planning and climate.

Sec. 3. Accessibility. Resolved: That the program must be designed to provide outreach and education to renters, low-income electricity customers and customers having the greatest potential for peak-demand electricity usage reductions, as determined by the trust, and the trust shall prioritize outreach and education for low-income electricity customers.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

