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Date: (Filing No. H-)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1497, L.D. 2015, “An Act To Update the Comprehensive State Energy Plan To Achieve the State Energy Vision”

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

Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶C, as amended by PL 2013, c. 541, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

C. No later than December 1, 2023 and every 4 years thereafter, develop, with input from the public and in consultation with relevant state and quasi-independent state entities, a state energy plan that establishes specific strategies to achieve the State’s energy and climate goals. The office shall submit the state energy plan to the Governor, the Maine Climate Council established by Title 38, section 577-A and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters. The plan must include specific near-term and long-term goals, as well as benchmarks by which progress toward these goals will be measured, and strategies for accomplishing the goals. The director shall seek to ensure the plan is consistent with the following planning principles, referred to in this paragraph as “the state energy vision”:

- (1) Ensure energy consumers in the State, including households and businesses, are able to access cost-effective sources of energy and reasonably priced energy;
- (2) Enable and promote economic activity across the State in a manner that develops and sustains a robust workforce and clean sources of energy;
- (3) Support the achievement of the State’s emissions reduction, climate change and renewable energy goals;
- (4) Achieve a fair and just allocation of energy benefits, costs and relative burdens for people and businesses in this State;
- (5) Ensure energy is supplied reliably and the frequency and duration of energy supply interruptions is minimized;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 (6) Identify and minimize energy vulnerabilities, including by ensuring energy
2 infrastructure is protected from and prepared for the effects of climate change; and

3 (7) Plan with due regard for the regional nature of the State’s energy systems.

4 No later than January 1, 2025 and every 2 years thereafter, the director shall review the
5 state energy plan and report to the Governor, the Maine Climate Council established
6 by Title 38, section 577-A and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
7 jurisdiction over energy and utilities matters on the State’s progress toward achieving
8 plan goals consistent with the state energy vision. In conducting the review, the office
9 shall provide opportunities for public comment and input on the plan and progress. The
10 report must provide specific and measured outcomes for each benchmark established
11 in the plan. The report may also include recommended changes to the plan. If, within
12 the 2-year reporting period, a change has been made to a benchmark or to a reporting
13 method in the plan, the report may include additional data, metrics and methods to
14 reflect the change, but the plan must also maintain consistent data, metrics and methods
15 in order to ensure maximum accountability, transparency and public understanding of
16 the plan and specific outcomes for each benchmark.

17 The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and
18 utilities matters may report out a bill by February 1st of each even-numbered year
19 relating to the content of the plan. The joint standing committee of the Legislature
20 having jurisdiction over natural resources matters may make recommendations on that
21 legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
22 energy and utilities matters.

23 **Sec. 2. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶C-1**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 415, §3, is further
24 amended to read:

25 C-1. By ~~January~~ March 15th of each year, prepare and submit to the joint standing
26 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities ~~and energy~~
27 matters an annual report that describes the activities of the office during the previous
28 calendar year in carrying out its duties under this subsection and describes the State's
29 progress in implementation of the state energy plan prepared pursuant to paragraph C
30 and its annual accounting pursuant to subsection 2-A, paragraph B. After receipt and
31 review of the annual report required under this paragraph, the joint standing committee
32 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utilities ~~and energy~~ matters may
33 submit legislation relating to energy policy;

34 **Sec. 3. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶G**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. MM, §3 and
35 affected by §26, is further amended to read:

36 G. Seek, accept and administer funds from public and private sources and develop
37 partnerships with public and private entities to support the goals of the office,
38 including, but not limited to, promoting energy efficiency, demand-side management
39 and distributed generation; and

40 **Sec. 4. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶H**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 415, §4, is repealed.

41 **Sec. 5. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§3, ¶I**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 656, Pt. C, §1, is repealed.

42 **Sec. 6. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§4, ¶B**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 655, Pt. C, §2, is
43 amended to read:

1 B. Avoiding wherever possible the use of lands subject to the provisions of the
2 Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 23; and

3 **Sec. 7. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§4, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 655, Pt. C, §2, is
4 amended to read:

5 C. Maximizing the benefit realized from the State's strategic location within New
6 England and the northeastern region; and

7 **Sec. 8. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§4, ¶D**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 655, Pt. C, §2, is
8 repealed.

9 **Sec. 9. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§6**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. MM, §4 and affected
10 by §26, is amended to read:

11 **6. Maine Energy Resources Development Program.** The Maine Energy Resources
12 Development Program, referred to in this subsection as "the program," is established to
13 promote energy research and demonstration and deployment activities related to both the
14 use of indigenous, renewable resources and more efficient use of energy. The office, as
15 funding allows, shall administer the program. The director may accept private money for
16 the purpose of funding the program.

17 A. The director shall include, in the comprehensive state energy plan under subsection
18 3, paragraph C, a report that specifies, in regard to the program, the expenditure of
19 program funds, the purposes for which the funds were used and the amount of the funds
20 and the sources from which the funds were derived.

21 B. For all proposed program expenditures of \$10,000 or more, the director shall seek
22 approval for those expenditures from the Governor. If the Governor approves, the
23 director shall seek approval for those expenditures from the Legislature under the
24 procedures authorizing the transfer of funds set forth in Title 5, section 1585.

25 **Sec. 10. 2 MRSA §9, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

26 **8. Contracts; agreements.** With the consent of the Governor and to the extent of
27 available funding, consistent with the powers and duties of the office under this section,
28 the office may:

29 A. Retain expert and professional consultants;

30 B. Contract for other services the director determines to be necessary; and

31 C. Enter into agreements with the Federal Government and other agencies and
32 organizations to promote the objectives of this section.'

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

35 **SUMMARY**

36 This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment:

37 1. Replaces the requirements of current law governing the state energy plan developed
38 by the Governor's Energy Office;

