130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document	**No. 506**
H.P. 369	House of Representatives, February 19, 2021

An Act To Reduce the Tax Burden on Low-income Electricity Customers

Submitted by the Office of the Public Advocate pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 17, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Taxation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.

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

2   **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§9-B, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 673, §1, is
3   amended to read:

4   A. The first 750 kilowatt hours of residential electricity per month; ~~and~~

5   **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§9-B, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 673, §1, is
6   amended to read:

7   B. Off-peak residential electricity used for space heating or water heating by means of
8   an electric thermal storage device. For the purpose of this paragraph, "off-peak
9   residential electricity" means the off-peak delivery of residential electricity pursuant to
10   tariffs on file with the Public Utilities Commission and the electricity supplied~~.~~; and

11   **Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§9-B, ¶C** is enacted to read:

12   C. Residential electricity consumed by eligible customers enrolled in a low-income
13   assistance program implemented pursuant to Title 35-A, section 3214, subsection 2 or
14   an arrearage management program implemented pursuant to Title 35-A, section 3214,
15   subsection 2-A.

16   **SUMMARY**

17   This bill exempts from sales tax all electricity consumed by residential customers
18   participating in either a low-income assistance program or arrearage management program
19   approved by the Public Utilities Commission. This exemption maximizes the value of the
20   benefit from the subsidies provided to participants in these programs.