



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2014

Legislative Document

No. 1620

H.P. 1192

House of Representatives, December 30, 2013

An Act To Increase the Maximum Gas Safety Administrative Penalty Amounts

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 23, 2013. Referred to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative HOBBS of Saco.
Cosponsored by Senator CLEVELAND of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §4516-A, sub-§§1 and 2**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 505,
3 §35, are amended to read:

4 **1. Violation of this Title.** The commission may impose an administrative penalty
5 on a natural gas pipeline utility that violates any provision of this Title relating to safety
6 of pipeline facilities or transportation of gas or any rule issued under this Title in an
7 amount not to exceed ~~\$100,000~~ \$200,000 for each violation. Each day of violation
8 constitutes a separate offense.

9 **2. Maximum administrative penalty.** The maximum administrative penalty may
10 not exceed ~~\$1,000,000~~ \$2,000,000 for any related series of violations.

11 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §4705-A, sub-§§1 and 2**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 505,
12 §38, are amended to read:

13 **1. Violation of this Title.** The commission may impose an administrative penalty
14 on a gas utility that violates any provision of this Title relating to safety of gas facilities
15 or any rule issued under this Title in an amount not to exceed ~~\$100,000~~ \$200,000 for each
16 violation. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense.

17 **2. Maximum administrative penalty.** The maximum administrative penalty may
18 not exceed ~~\$1,000,000~~ \$2,000,000 for any related series of violations.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill increases the maximum gas safety administrative penalty amounts to be
21 consistent with federal law.