

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 556

S.P. 218

In Senate, February 11, 2025

An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or Energy Distributor

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HARRINGTON of York. Cosponsored by Representative GREENWOOD of Wales and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives: FOSTER of Dexter, PAUL of Winterport.

- 1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
 - Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3015 is enacted to read:

3 §3015. Heating or energy system

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4 Unless otherwise authorized by statute, a municipality may not adopt any ordinance or 5 regulation that prohibits the use of a safe and commercially available heating or energy 6 system of an individual's or entity's choice to serve the individual's or entity's heating or 7 energy needs, including the heating or energy needs of a motor vehicle, or that prohibits 8 the individual or entity from engaging the services of a person or energy distributor to install, connect, service or resupply such a system. As used in this section, "energy 9 10 distributor" means an individual or entity allowed to distribute or supply oil, propane, natural gas or wood or renewable resources or other related energy services to consumers 11 12 in the State and "renewable resources" has the same meaning as in Title 35-A, section 3210, 13 subsection 2, paragraph C.

14This section does not limit the authority of a municipality to encourage the use of a15particular type of heating or energy system or to spend funds in support of a particular type16of heating or energy system. This section does not exempt any person or energy distributor17that installs, connects, services or resupplies a heating or energy system from applicable18licensing or other requirements governing such activities.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits municipalities from prohibiting an individual or entity from using a heating or energy system for that individual's or entity's own heating or energy needs, including the heating or energy needs of a motor vehicle, or engaging the services of a person or energy distributor of that individual's or entity's choice unless the prohibition is otherwise authorized by statute.