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Date: (Filing No. H-)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1237, L.D. 1666, “An Act To Direct the Public Utilities Commission to Implement a Statewide, Multi-use Online Energy Data Platform”

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

'Resolve, To Require the Public Utilities Commission To Issue a Request for Information on a Statewide, Multiple-use Online Energy Data Platform'

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

Preamble. **Whereas,** in order to implement comprehensive energy management and efficiency programs, it is necessary to provide customers and other stakeholders with safe, secure access to information about energy usage in homes, businesses and municipalities; and

Whereas, access to energy data is a foundational element for moving the State's natural gas and electric systems to a more efficient paradigm in which empowering customers is a critical element; and

Whereas, by enabling the aggregation of and removal of personally identifiable information from community-level energy data and requiring a consent-driven process for access to or sharing of customer-level energy usage data, as proposed by this legislation, the State can open the door to innovative business applications that will save customers money and allow for better use of the electricity grid and other utility services; and

Whereas, a multiple-use online energy data platform will enable both the private and the public sectors to plan and implement energy programs including energy efficiency, distributed generation, energy storage and transmission and distribution improvements that will help reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in accordance with emissions reduction goals established in law; and

Whereas, implementation of a multiple-use online energy data platform is essential to achieving the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals established by the State and by municipalities; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **Whereas**, information about energy usage is currently held by individual utility
2 companies with varying capabilities to share data, directly affecting customer and
3 stakeholder access to quality energy data; and

4 **Whereas**, a centralized online energy data platform with defined standards regarding
5 aggregation, data privacy and data security will create administrative and operational
6 efficiencies for all customers and stakeholders involved in the energy sector; now,
7 therefore, be it

8 **Sec. 1. Public Utilities Commission evaluation of statewide, multiple-use**
9 **online energy data platform. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities Commission shall
10 issue a request for information to evaluate the feasibility of the commission's establishing
11 and operating a statewide, multiple-use online energy data platform, referred to in this
12 section as "the platform," that will provide natural gas and electric utility customers with
13 safe, secure access to information about their energy usage and will allow for the
14 aggregation of and removal of personally identifiable information from community-level
15 energy data. In issuing a request for information on the feasibility of the platform under
16 this section, the commission shall define the relationships among the various categories of
17 data to be included in the platform. The request for information must require that the
18 platform:

19 1. Consist of a common base of energy data for use in a wide range of applications and
20 business uses;

21 2. Adhere to specific and well-documented standards for data accuracy, retention,
22 availability, privacy and security;

23 3. Allow 3rd-party access to customer energy data;

24 4. Allow for the sharing of individual customer energy data and provide an opt-in
25 option for utility customers when sharing data with 3rd parties;

26 5. Protect utility customers from unauthorized disclosure of personally identifiable
27 information and ensure customer privacy rights;

28 6. Provide for the voluntary participation of consumer-owned transmission and
29 distribution utilities and municipal power districts; and

30 7. Meet the requirements for certification from the Green Button Alliance and support
31 the Green Button "Connect My Data" standard and the energy service provider interface of
32 the North American Energy Standards Board.

33 The request for information must include an evaluation of a platform that would be
34 funded through the assessment of a fee to be collected by utilities on their customers and
35 transferred to the commission. In evaluating the feasibility of establishing and operating
36 the platform, the commission shall require consideration of online energy data platforms
37 being used in other states. After receiving information, the commission shall evaluate
38 whether the creation, operation and management of the platform can be performed by the
39 commission or whether all or part of the creation, management or operation of the platform
40 would need to be performed by a 3rd party. The commission shall allow public comment
41 on the request for information.

42 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That, by January 31, 2022, the Public Utilities
43 Commission shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and

1 Technology that includes the results of the evaluation required under section 1. The
2 committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature
3 based on the report.'

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

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve and requires the Public Utilities
8 Commission to issue a request for information to evaluate the feasibility of the
9 commission's establishing and operating a statewide, multiple-use online energy data
10 platform that will provide natural gas and electric utility customers with safe, secure access
11 to information about their usage and will allow for the aggregation of and removal of
12 personally identifiable information from community-level energy data. The resolve
13 requires the commission to submit a report, by January 31, 2022, to the Joint Standing
14 Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology that includes the results of the evaluation.
15 Lastly, it allows the committee to report out a bill during the Second Regular Session of
16 the 130th Legislature based on the report.

17 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
18 **(See attached)**