



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1313

H.P. 891

House of Representatives, April 9, 2015

An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Nuclear Power Generating Facilities

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative O'CONNOR of Berwick. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and
Representatives: DUNPHY of Embden, MALABY of Hancock, WADSWORTH of Hiram,
Senator: WOODSOME of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §4301, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 398, Pt. A, §94
3 and affected by §§104 and 105, is further amended to read:

4 **1. Investment in nuclear power plants.** The Legislature finds that construction of a
5 nuclear power plant is a major financial investment, which will have consequences for
6 consumers for years to come. ~~In the recent past, investments in nuclear power plants~~
7 ~~have caused severe financial strain on consumers.~~

8 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §4302, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 398, Pt. A, §95
9 and affected by §§104 and 105, is further amended to read:

10 **1. Question submitted to voters.** Prior to the construction of ~~any~~ a nuclear power
11 plant with capacity greater than 500 megawatts within the State, the question of
12 approving that construction must be submitted to the voters of the State in the manner
13 prescribed by law for holding a statewide election. This question must be submitted to
14 the legal voters of the State at the next following statewide election. The municipal
15 officers and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their
16 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for
17 holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of construction by
18 voting on the following question:

19 "Do you approve construction of the nuclear power plant proposed for (insert locations)?"

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill creates a threshold capacity of 500 megawatts for a nuclear power plant for
22 which a referendum is required as part of the siting process.