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An Act To Encourage Small Business Energy Efficiency

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3211-A, sub-§2, ¶L is enacted to read:

L. The commission shall develop on-bill financing programs for energy efficiency improvements for small business consumers and may direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to implement such programs. For the purposes of this paragraph, "on-bill financing" means a utility-based method for providing 0% financing for energy efficiency improvements through the monthly electricity bill and "small business consumers" has the same meaning as defined by the commission by rule in accordance with paragraph B, subparagraph (2).

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to develop on-bill financing programs for energy efficiency improvements for small businesses. The bill also authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to implement on-bill financing programs for small business customers. On-bill financing is a method by which energy efficiency improvements are financed through the monthly electricity bill at 0% interest.