



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 131

LR 11(01)

An Act To Secure the Safety of Electrical Power Transmission Lines

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement for Original Bill

Sponsor: Rep. Boland of Sanford

Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Preliminary Fiscal Impact Statement

Current biennium cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC), in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), is required to adopt routine technical rules to identify effective design measures for a transmission and distribution (T&D) system in order to limit electromagnetic field levels and ensure the protection of the T&D system as well as to consider electromagnetic field levels when determining the public need for a transmission line. The PUC and the DEP have adequate available resources for the rulemaking and other expenses related to the activities required. Adoption of these rule changes may translate into future rate increases for electricity consumers due to the additional costs associated with incorporating the design measures.