

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 (page 1, lines 2 to 14 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

‘**Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3132, sub-§14** is enacted to read:

14. Customer cost impact. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the commission may not issue a certificate of public convenience and necessity that has the effect of eliminating the independent system administrator for northern Maine or eliminating or materially modifying the scope of responsibilities of the independent system administrator for northern Maine unless the certificate is subject to a requirement for the full compensation for the net adverse effects on ratepayers as determined by the commission. The determination of the net adverse effects must include, but is not limited to, known and measurable transmission cost effects. Compensation required by this section must be provided to affected ratepayers through a rebate, reduction in rates or other appropriate compensation mechanism benefiting affected ratepayers in the area of the State in which the retail electricity market is administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine. Compensation required by this section must be calculated for and provided to affected ratepayers over a period of not more than 10 years.’

SUMMARY

This amendment makes several changes to clarify that the compensation required by the bill is for net adverse effects on ratepayers, as opposed to adverse effects; that it may be provided through an appropriate compensation mechanism other than a rebate or rate reduction; and that it must be for the benefit of affected ratepayers in the area covered by the Northern Maine Independent System Administrator. Additionally, the amendment limits the period over which the compensation is calculated and provided to affected ratepayers to a period of not more than 10 years.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)