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Date: (Filing No. H-)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 73, L.D. 105, “An Act to Prohibit Minimum Usage or Tank Rental Fees for Certain Propane Customers”

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

'An Act to Require Propane Companies to Notify Customers of Minimum Usage or Tank Rental Fees'

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

'Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1661-D is enacted to read:

§1661-D. Propane gas; minimum usage or tank rental fees

1. Notice required. A retail seller of propane gas that charges a minimum usage fee or tank rental fee for a rental propane tank shall, prior to providing a rental propane tank to a customer, provide the customer with written notice that the seller charges such a fee, the amount of the fee and the frequency at which the fee will be charged. In the case of a minimum usage fee, a retail seller shall also provide the customer with written notice of the amount of propane the customer must use in order to avoid being charged the fee.

2. Changes to fees. A retail seller of propane gas that has provided written notice under subsection 1 to a customer under this section shall also provide the customer with written notice at least 30 days prior to changing the amount of the fee, the frequency at which the fee will be charged or the amount of propane the customer must use in order to avoid being charged the fee.

3. Change of ownership. If the ownership of a residential dwelling serviced by a retail seller of propane gas changes, the retail seller of propane gas may not charge any fee to the new owner of the residential dwelling unless the new owner agrees to accept services from the retail seller of propane gas and the retail seller of propane gas provides the new owner of the residential dwelling with the notices required under subsection 1.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment is the minority report of the committee. The amendment requires a
5 retail seller of propane gas to notify customers in writing if the seller charges a minimum
6 usage fee or tank rental fee and prohibits the seller from changing the fee without first
7 notifying the customer in writing. It also requires a retail seller of propane gas, upon a
8 change of ownership over a residential dwelling serviced by the retail seller, to verify that
9 the new owner of the residential dwelling agrees to accept services from the retail seller of
10 propane gas.

11 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
12 **(See attached)**