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Date: (Filing No. S- )

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
**SENATE**  
**131ST LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 5, L.D. 3, “An Act to Establish the Winter Energy Relief Payment Program to Aid Residents with High Heating Costs and to Finalize the COVID Pandemic Relief Payment Program”

Amend the bill by striking out all of Part E and inserting the following:

**'PART E**

**Sec. E-1. Temporary emergency variance.** The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, without hearing, may suspend any of the sulfur content requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 603-A, subsection 2 if the commissioner finds that the expected availability of fuel that complies with those requirements is inadequate to meet the needs of residential, commercial or industrial users in this State and that such expected unavailability constitutes an immediate threat to public health, safety or the general welfare. The commissioner shall specify in writing the period during which the suspension is in effect. A suspension imposed pursuant to this section must terminate no later than May 1, 2024.'

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

**SUMMARY**

This amendment limits the provision in the bill that allows the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to suspend the sulfur content requirements for liquid and solid fossil fuels if the commissioner finds that the expected availability of fuel that complies with those requirements is inadequate to meet the needs of residential, commercial or industrial users in this State and that such expected unavailability constitutes an immediate threat to public health, safety or the general welfare. The suspension expires no later than May 1, 2024.

**SPONSORED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Senator LIBBY, J.)**

**COUNTY: Cumberland**