



# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

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Legislative Document

No. 431

S.P. 135

In Senate, February 10, 2011

### **An Act To Require the Efficiency Maine Trust To More Effectively Administer Funds**

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Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

*Joseph G. Carleton Jr.*

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator THIBODEAU of Waldo.  
Cosponsored by Representative CURTIS of Madison and  
Senators: ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, SHERMAN of Aroostook, THOMAS of Somerset, Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, CUSHING of Hampden, DAVIS of Sangerville, McKANE of Newcastle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10105, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

3 **8. Prohibition on use of funds.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
4 chapter, the trust may not expend state funds on any energy efficiency or renewable  
5 energy program or project for a consumer that will result in any greater costs to that  
6 consumer, either in the short term or long term, regardless of the cost-effectiveness of the  
7 program or project with respect to the expenditure of the state funds.

8 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §10153, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 591, §1, is  
9 amended to read:

10 **1. Energy savings improvement.** "Energy savings improvement" means an  
11 improvement to qualifying property that, as determined by the trust, is new and  
12 permanently affixed to qualifying property and that:

13 A. Will result in increased energy efficiency and substantially reduced energy use  
14 and:

15 (1) Meets or exceeds applicable United States Environmental Protection Agency  
16 and United States Department of Energy Energy Star program or similar energy  
17 efficiency standards established or approved by the trust; or

18 (2) Involves weatherization of residential, commercial or industrial property in a  
19 manner approved by the trust; ~~or~~

20 B. Involves a renewable energy installation or an electric thermal storage system that  
21 meets or exceeds standards established or approved by the trust; ~~or~~

22 C. Involves an upgrade of any heating equipment that will result in increased energy  
23 efficiency.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill:

26 1. Prohibits the Efficiency Maine Trust from expending state funds on any energy  
27 efficiency or renewable energy program or project for a consumer that will result in any  
28 greater costs to that consumer; and

29 2. Modifies the definition of "energy savings improvement" under the PACE  
30 program to include an upgrade of any heating equipment that will result in increased  
31 energy efficiency.