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An Act To Allow the Maine State Housing Authority To Prepurchase Oil for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4741, sub-§15, as amended by PL 2009, c. 372, Pt. B, §2, is further amended to read:

15. State weatherization, conservation and fuel assistance agency. The Maine State Housing Authority is designated the weatherization, energy conservation and fuel assistance agency for the State and, in accordance with Title 35A, section 10104, subsection 8, may apply for, receive, distribute and administer federal funds on behalf of the State for weatherization, energy conservation and fuel assistance pursuant to the Weatherization Assistance for Low-income Persons Program administered through the United States Department of Energy and the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program administered through the United States Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with rules adopted under the Maine Administrative Procedure Act. As a bonding and financing organization, the Maine State Housing Authority may enable the purchase of heating oil in bulk from qualified vendors at a discount for persons who are eligible to receive assistance from the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program in advance of receipt of federal funds;

SUMMARY

This bill provides the Maine State Housing Authority with the authority to enable the purchase of heating oil in bulk from qualified vendors at a discount for persons who are eligible to receive assistance from the federal Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program in advance of federal funds.