130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document **No. 1019**

H.P. 757 House of Representatives, March 10, 2021

An Act To Promote Transparent Emergency Management

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRADSTREET of Vassalboro.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DUCHARME of Madison, HAGGAN of Hampden, MORRIS of Turner, STETKIS of Canaan, TUELL of East Machias.

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

Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 617, Pt. H, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (13) to read:

(13) During a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with this section due to the outbreak of COVID-19:

(a) Reasonably adjust time frames and deadlines imposed by law for state, county and municipal governments and other entities when such an adjustment is reasonably necessary to mitigate an effect of the emergency;

(b) In consultation with the Public Utilities Commission, suspend the termination of residential electricity and water services during the period of emergency ~~and up to 60 days after the state of emergency is terminated~~; and

(c) Modify or suspend the requirements for professional or occupational licensing or registration by any agency, board or commission if strict compliance with such requirements would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in dealing with the emergency.

~~The powers granted in divisions (a) and (c) terminate 30 days following the termination of the state of emergency.~~

Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §742, sub-§1, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. An order issued by the Governor pursuant to this subsection following an emergency proclamation expires the soonest of:

(1) Thirty days following issuance of the order;

(2) The termination of the state of emergency by the Governor or the Legislature pursuant to section 743; and

(3) The issuance of a different emergency proclamation by the Governor.

SUMMARY

This bill requires an order issued by the Governor following the declaration of a state of emergency to expire 30 days following the issuance of the order, termination of the state of emergency by the Governor or the Legislature or declaration of a different state of emergency by the Governor, whichever occurs first.