

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 21

H. P. 12

Office of the Clerk of the House

Filed December 29, 1976 under Joint Rule No. 6 by Mr. Carroll of Limerick. To be printed and delivered to the House of Representatives of the 108th Legislature.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Carroll of Limerick.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Exempt Small Water Districts from Regulation by the Public
Utilities Commission.**

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

35 MRSA § 15, sub-§ 13 is amended to read:

13. **Public utility.** "Public utility" includes every common carrier, gas company, natural gas pipeline company, electrical company, telephone company, telegraph company, water company, **excluding water districts serving 250 or fewer customers**, public heating company, wharfinger and warehouseman, as those terms are defined in this section, and each thereof if declared to be a public utility and to be subject to the jurisdiction, control and regulation of the commission, and to chapters 1 to 17.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill exempts water districts serving 250 or fewer customers from regulation by the Public Utilities Commission. These districts are so small that compliance with many PUC regulations and proceedings is burdensome and unnecessary. These districts are small enough so that voters of the district can easily keep track of the districts' operation, and any necessary changes can be accomplished by replacing district directors at elections.