

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 212

S. P. 107

In Senate, January 30, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Public Utilities. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Conley of Cumberland.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Restrict the Placing of Hazardous Objects on Utility Poles.

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

17-A MRSA § 405 is enacted to read:

§ 405. Trespass on a utility pole

1. A person is guilty of trespass on a utility pole if, without the prior consent of the utility owning or using the pole, he places any poster, notice or advertisement, tack, nail or other object on any utility pole, whether or not within the limits of a public way.

2. Trespass on a utility pole is a Class E crime.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The placing of posters, notices and advertisements on utility poles creates an encumbrance to utility personnel who may have to climb the pole in the performance of their duties, often under emergency conditions. The use of tacks, nails and other sharp objects to hold the posters, notices and advertisements in place creates a particularly hazardous situation for utility personnel.