## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## **CORRECTED COPY 1/6/82**

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	SI	TATE OF M	IAINE		
	IN THE NINETEEN	YEAR OF HUNDRED			o
AN	ACT to Clarif Public	y Certain Advocates		s of the	
Be it enact	ed by the Peop	ple of the	State of 1	Maine as	follows:
<b>Sec. 1</b> c. 479, place:	. 35 MRSA § §2, is repea	1- <b>A, sub-</b> § aled and t	<b>3</b> , as ena he follow	acted by ving enac	PL 198 cted in i
Advocate the Personr tion of t Public Adv	nel Law. The the profession ocate with the loyees of the	fessional e appointmen nal employ	mployees nt, salari yees shal of th	may be ies and I be fix e Gover	subject compens ed by t

1 Sec. 2. 35 MRSA §1-A, sub-§10, first sentence, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 479, §2, is amended to read:

Utilities shall provide to the Public Advocate copies of all reports and other information required to be filed with or which may be submitted to the commission at the same time and in the same manner as submitted to the commisssion, except to the extent that this requirement is waived, in writing, by the Public Advocate.

9 Sec. 3. 35 MRSA §1-A, sub-§10, as enacted by PL 1981, 10 c. 479, §2, is amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

Any information provided by the commission to any party in a matter to which the Public Advocate is also a party shall be provided simultaneously by the commission to the Public Advocate.

## Statement of Fact

This bill has 2 purposes. First, it clarifies that the professional staff of the Public Advocate are not subject to the Personnel Law. Instead, the Public Advocate will make appointments to his staff and set the salaries and compensation levels for his staff. Since the Public Advocate is responsible directly to the Governor and executes the Governor's policies, this procedure will ensure that the staff of the Public Advocate also reflects the Governor's policies. This arrangement mirrors the procedure followed in the Attorney General's office.

Second, the bill ensures that the Public Advocate will receive information to which he is entitled from the utilities at the same time and in the same manner as the Public Utilities Commission receives it. It also ensures that the Public Advocate will receive information in the possession of the Public Utilities Commission to which he is entitled at the same time that other entitled parties receive it.