

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 860

H.P. 611

House of Representatives, February 16, 2005

An Act To Efficiently Use Funds of the Public Utilities Commission

(EMERGENCY)

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BLISS of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland and
Representative: FLETCHER of Winslow.

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4
6 **Whereas,** it is necessary that the Public Utilities
Commission have sufficient funds to carry out its statutory
obligations during fiscal year 2005-06; and

8
10 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
12 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore,

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

16 **Sec. 1. Use of unexpended funds.** Notwithstanding the Maine
18 Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 116, subsection 5, the
Public Utilities Commission may expend in fiscal year 2005-06 and
20 fiscal year 2006-07, for the purposes specified in Title 35-A,
section 116, subsection 4, 100% of any unexpended funds remaining
22 at the end of the prior fiscal year. Treatment of funds not
expended at the end of fiscal year 2006-07 is governed by Title
24 35-A, section 116, subsection 5.

26 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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SUMMARY

32 This bill allows the Public Utilities Commission to fulfill
its responsibilities without requesting an increase in the funds
34 it must collect from utility ratepayers by allowing the
commission to use funds collected in previous years.