

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 68

S.P. 21

In Senate, January 15, 2019

An Act To Improve the Record Keeping of the Public Utilities Commission

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARSON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: MIRAMANT of Knox, WOODSOME of York, Representative:
BERRY of Bowdoinham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §1318, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 141, Pt. A, §6, is
3 amended to read:

4 **1. Record.** The commission shall keep a complete and permanent record of:

5 A. All proceedings before it;

6 B. Investigations; ~~and~~

7 C. Formal public hearings; and

8 D. Complaints.

9 The record must include the results and conclusions of proceedings, investigations,
10 formal public hearings and complaints, including, but not limited to, orders, findings,
11 decisions and settlement agreements.

12 **Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §1318, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

13 **3. Reconstruction; past records.** Upon the request of a customer, the commission
14 shall, to the extent possible, reconstruct the record of a proceeding, investigation, formal
15 public hearing or complaint affecting that customer that was disposed of prior to the
16 requirement of this section to permanently maintain the record. Upon request of the
17 commission, any party to the proceeding, investigation, formal public hearing or
18 complaint that possesses relevant records shall furnish those records to the commission to
19 fulfill the requirements of this subsection. The commission shall provide the requesting
20 customer notice of and access to any record that is reconstructed.

21 SUMMARY

22 This bill amends the law governing the record-keeping requirements of the Public
23 Utilities Commission. Current law requires that the commission maintain a complete
24 record of proceedings, investigations and formal public hearings. The bill adds the
25 requirement to maintain a record of complaints. It also specifies that the required records
26 be permanently maintained and include results and conclusions, including orders,
27 findings, decisions and settlement agreements. Finally, the bill requires the commission,
28 upon request of a public utility customer, to reconstruct, to the extent possible, the record
29 of a proceeding, investigation, formal public hearing or complaint that was disposed of
30 prior to the requirement that a permanent record be maintained.