MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025
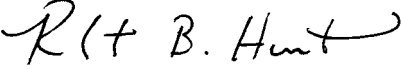
An Act to Expand Municipal Authority over Utility Pole Permits

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ABDI of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin and
Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, MCCABE of Lewiston.

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

2   **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §2517, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 1999, c. 753, §13, is further
3   amended to read:

4   **1. Revocation of pole location by municipal officers.** When the municipal officers
5   of a municipality having a population of more than ~~40,000~~ 30,000 inhabitants determine,
6   after notice and hearing, that public safety and the public welfare require the revocation of
7   a location for poles for conveying electricity or for the transmission of telephone messages
8   already erected in a public street or way other than a state or a state-aid highway outside
9   the compact area of an urban compact municipality as defined in Title 23, section 754, they
10   may revoke the location and order the poles removed. The person that owns the poles shall
11   remove them within a reasonable time. Other suitable locations or the right to use other
12   poles jointly must be granted by the municipal officers to the person.

13   **SUMMARY**

14   Current law authorizes the municipal officers of a municipality having a population of
15   more than 40,000 inhabitants to revoke the location of a utility pole when required for the
16   public safety and welfare. This bill expands that authorization to municipalities having
17   more than 30,000 inhabitants.