

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 405

H. P. 1214

House of Representatives, Feb. 19, 1929

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Bishop of Boothbay Harbor.

STATE OF MAINE

**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE**

AN ACT to Amend Sections Forty-four, Forty-five and Forty-eight of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Procedure Before Public Utilities Commission.

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

Section forty-four of chapter fifty-five of the revised 2 statutes, is hereby amended by striking out in the fourth 3 line thereof the word "ten" and inserting in lieu thereof the 4 word 'seven,' so that said section as amended shall read as 5 follows:

'Sect. 44. The commission immediately upon the filing of 2 such complaint shall notify in writing the public utility 3 complained of that a complaint has been made, and of the 4 nature thereof; and if at the expiration of seven days there-

5 from such public utility shall not have removed the cause
6 of complaint to the satisfaction of the commission, said
7 commission shall proceed to set a time and place for a hear-
8 ing as hereinafter provided.'

Section forty-five of chapter fifty-five of the revised
2 statutes, is hereby amended by striking out in the second
3 line thereof the word "ten" and inserting in lieu thereof
4 the word 'seven,' so that said section as amended shall read
5 as follows:

'Sect. 45. The commission shall give the public utility and
2 the complainants at least seven days' notice of the time and
3 place when and where such formal public hearing will be
4 held. Both the public utility and the complainants shall be
5 entitled to be heard and have process to enforce the attend-
6 ance of witnesses as in civil actions in the supreme judicial
7 court.'

Section forty-eight, chapter fifty-five of the revised
2 statutes, is hereby amended by striking out in the ninth line
3 thereof the word "ten" and inserting in lieu thereof the
4 word 'seven,' so that said section as amended shall read as
5 follows:

'Sect. 48. Whenever the commission believes that any
2 rate or charge is unjust or unreasonable or that any service
3 is inadequate or cannot be obtained or that an investigation
4 of any matter relating to any public utility should for any
5 reason be made, it may on its own motion, summarily in-
6 vestigate the same with or with notice. If after making

7 such summary investigation the commission becomes satis-
8 fied that sufficient grounds exist to warrant a formal pub-
9 lic hearing being ordered as to matters so investigated, it
10 shall furnish such public utility interested a written statement
11 giving notice of the matter under investigation. Seven
12 after such notice has been given the commission may
13 ceed to set a time and place for a formal public hearing as
14 hereinbefore provided.'