

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

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606 AN ACT TO PREVENT COMBINING MORE THAN ONE BOND ISSUE ITEM IN A SINGLE BOND ISSUE BILL Swazey LV/WD

SUMMARY: See description of LD 338.

607 AN ACT TO PROVIDE HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE TENANTS IN SUBSIDIZED HOUSING Rolde LV/WD

SUMMARY: ID 607 proposed to enact the Home Energy Assistance Program into statute and prohibit the exclusion of residents in subsidized housing from home energy assistance. Residents in subsidized housing were excluded by rules of the Division of Community Services from assistance with fuel payments.

In 1982, approximately \$22,000,000 was available for fuel assistance which was distributed among 44,683 low income households. The average per household assistance was \$450.

The argument raised against the bill was that people in subsidized housing receive assistance. By adding residents of subsidized housing to the program, roughly 18,000 more households would be eligible. The average household assistance would be reduced to \$250/household.

650 AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES' RULE-MAKING AND ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS Kelly LV/WD

SUMMARY: ID 650 proposed to exempt the Department of Marine Resources from notice requirements of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act. The Department would not be required to publish notice of hearings in industrial, trade, professional, and interest group publications. The Department argued that the publication of the Commercial Fisheries News prevented the timely publication of hearing notices. The committee learned that the publication dates and submission dates were established to accommodate the department. Since the Department leases submerged lands etc., that could have a substantial impact on the State, the Committee decided not to make an exception to the rule.