

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
Public Utilities

BILL SUMMARY



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1019 AN ACT TO PERMIT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO AUTHORIZE A MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF A PUBLIC UTILITY Kany Carpenter Kelleher McGowan (for PA) ENACT. PL 213 (OTPA)

SUMMARY: Authorizes PUC to require a management audit of a utility by the PUC staff or an independent auditor, with special emphasis on: planning of construction, efficient operations, and avoidance of increased costs. Costs of an independent auditor would be paid by the utility. PUC could order implementation of the recommendations.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-56) Deletes from the bill the option of the Public Utilities Commission doing a management audit itself. It also makes it clear that the cost of the management audit shall be included in the rates.

1020 AN ACT TO PROTECT ALL CUSTOMERS FROM UNJUST TERMINATION OF UTILITY SERVICES Baldacci Bost Vose Kany (for PA) LV/WD

SUMMARY: Would have required PUC to adopt reasonable regulations for utility deposits and for termination of service for all customers, not just residential customers as at present. (See LD 958)

1021 AN ACT TO ENSURE JUST AND REASONABLE RATES FOR UTILITIES REGULATED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION Baldacci Bost Baker Vose (for PA) LV/WD

SUMMARY: Would have specifically authorized PUC to reduce the rates accordingly for any public utility that is not operated as efficiently as possible or managed soundly.

1042 AN ACT TO FAIRLY APPORTION THE COST OF CANCELLED GENERATING FACILITIES Baker Kany (for PA) OTP-ND (LD 1496)

SUMMARY: Would authorize PUC to allocate equitably between the stockholders and the ratepayers, the cost of any cancelled plant in which a utility is involved, to the extent that the utility acted prudently and reasonably. Collection from the ratepayers would be spread over the years the plant would have been operating. But, "Allowance for funds used during construction" (AFUDC), that is the interest on money borrowed during the construction period, would be paid entirely by the stockholders.