

# 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



JULY, 1983

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Public Utilities Committee

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1166 AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL TELE- Z. Matthews ENACT. PL 531  
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR THE (ND of LD 152)  
DEAF, HEARING IMPAIRED AND SPEECH  
IMPAIRED

SUMMARY: New draft makes telecommunication equipment available to serve the needs of deaf, hearing impaired and speech impaired persons. Creates a special fund from which moneys can be taken by the Office of Deafness to provide, upgrade and service special telecommunications equipment used by deaf, hearing impaired and speech impaired persons. \$40,000 per year for fiscal year 1984 and 1985 is appropriated from the General Fund. The fund will be administered according to a plan developed by the Office of Deafness and approved by the Public Utilities Commission.

1208 AN ACT TO REINCORPORATE AND AMEND Wentworth ENACT. P&S 26  
THE CHARTER OF THE NORTH BERWICK EMER  
WATER DISTRICT (OTPA)  
REFERENDUM

SUMMARY: The District was created by P&SL 1981, c. 54, but lapsed when it failed to acquire the water company. The bill reincorporates the District, subject to referendum, and gives until Dec. 31, 1983, to acquire the water company.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-135) increases the maximum amount of a single bond issue from \$768,000 to \$800,000.

House Amendment "A" (H-146) technical.

1213 AN ACT LIMITING THE COST OF LOCAL Michael ENACT. PL 122  
PAY TELEPHONE CALLS (ND of LD 504)

SUMMARY: Requires equity in the cost of local telephone calls, by requiring that the same rate be charged by any telephone company throughout its service territory. For example, pay phones in 5 Maine Communities charge on a time basis; the initial charge only covers the first 5 minutes, and 10 cents more is charged for each additional 3 minutes. In other communities in the service territory of the same telephone company, there is only an initial charge. Equal treatment will now be required.