

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

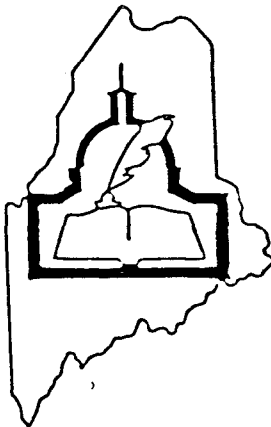
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
UTILITIES
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 334 AN ACT TO SIMPLIFY AND CLARIFY THE PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY OVER
ND: 1499 UTILITY ISSUANCE OF STOCKS, BONDS AND NOTES

BALDACCI
RICHARD
PARADIS E
WEYMOUTH

OTP-ND SPO574 HOUSE Accepted Committee Report
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

CH #

SUMMARY: Existing law requires that public utilities obtain PUC approval for issuance of stocks, bonds and notes payable over 12 months or longer. The bill streamlines the language and explicitly allows the PUC to consider the reasonableness of the purpose of the securities and of the financing cost. It also deletes an exclusion on securities issued to finance out of State projects.

See new draft LD 1499

LD: 335 AN ACT TO PROTECT TENANTS WHEN LANDLORDS
FAIL TO PAY UTILITY BILLS

ANDREWS
RICHARD
HANDY
BALDACCI

ND:

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted
SENATE Enacted
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC
CH # 87

S-30 CA H S

SUMMARY: The bill addresses the situation where a landlord is responsible for utility bills and fails to pay them. The tenant may not be disconnected, but service may be transferred to the tenants' name. Then, a lien is placed on the property to help the utility secure payment from the landlord.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-30) makes it clear that the landlord is responsible for payment for utility service when the landlord applies for and is granted that service. PUC's disconnect regulations, ch.81, require a utility to offer the tenant an opportunity to assume responsibility for future service before the service may be disconnected due to nonpayment by the landlord. The amendment also includes a technical provision to make it clear that the lien provision does apply despite the prohibition of 35 MRSA §3225.