

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

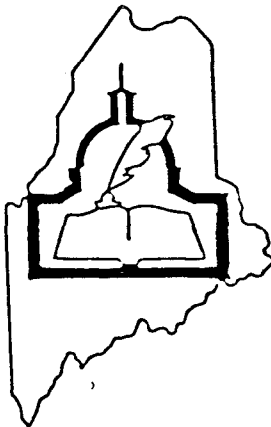
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
UTILITIES
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

Haven Whiteside, Legislative Assistant
Office of Legislative Assistants
State House, Station 13 Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 289-1670



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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS
ROOM 101
STATE HOUSE, STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-2486

SARAH HOOKE
JULIE S. JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
MARGARET J. REINSCH
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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: 582 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADOPTION AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDATORY LOCAL MEASURED
ND: TELEPHONE SERVICE

WEYMOUTH
CHALMERS
MAYBURY
RIDLEY

LU-WD

HOUSE Accepted Committee Report
SENATE Accepted Committee Report
GOV

CH #

SUMMARY: The bill orders PUC to conduct a formal public hearing to determine the justness and reasonableness of mandatory local measured service, including: costs and savings to all classes of customers and the telephone company and the effects of LMS on customers. The PUC order initiating LMS is nullified, and LMS is prohibited until July 1, 1986. Any new PUC order would be based on the investigation. At least 12 months of parallel billing is required before any LMS order.
This is one of nine bills withdrawn in favor of committee and PUC study. (See LD1011).

LD: 583 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL PUBLIC
EMERGENCY UTILITIES COMMISSION REGULATORY FUND
ND: ASSESSMENT AND TO CLARIFY THE CURRENT
STATUTES

VOSE
BALDACCI
ANDREWS
MCGOWAN
PUBLIC
CH # 125

OTP-AM

HOUSE Emerg. Enacted
SENATE Emerg. Enacted
GOV EMER SIGNED

H-67

CA

H

S

SUMMARY: The bill increases the annual assessment on utilities to fund the PUC Regulatory Fund by \$300,000 for FY 85-86, making a total of \$1,894,000 per year and by \$45,000 more beginning in FY 86-87 making a total of \$1,939,000 per year. The bill retains present law which divides the assessment among the utilities in proportion to their intrastate gross operating revenues and has an upper limit of 1/4 of one percent of those revenues.

The bill exempts gas utilities subject only to the safety jurisdiction of PUC pending study. It allows PUC to correct errors in assessments the following year. It permanently establishes 2 positions for seasonal legal researchers; positions which are now established year to year.

The bill also streamlines the assessment language and corrects an error in the number of authorized positions.

The Committee amendment (H-67) makes it clear that no full-time positions are to be added at the PUC, but 2 part-time (i.e. up to 15 weeks per year) positions are to be established on a permanent basis.