

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1528

S. P. 538

In Senate, May 11, 1965

Reported by Majority, from Committee on Public Utilities. Printed under
Joint Rules No. 10.

EDWIN H. PERT, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-FIVE

AN ACT Revising the Rural Electrification Cooperative Law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows :

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 35, § 2301, amended. Section 2301 of Title 35 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end, a new paragraph to read as follows :

‘No person, firm, association, corporation or cooperative engaged in the transmission, distribution and sale of electricity shall construct or extend facilities, or furnish or offer to furnish electricity, for ultimate use and not for resale, to any premises which are already receiving electric service from another electric supplier or which are not receiving such service but are located within 1,000 feet of a distribution line of another electric supplier, except with the consent in writing of such other electric supplier. Where unserved premises are located within 1,000 feet of the distribution lines of more than one supplier, said premises shall be served by the supplier whose distribution line is located in closest proximity to such unserved premises.’

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 35, § 2809, repealed and replaced. Section 2809 of Title 35 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

‘§ 2809. Limited jurisdiction of Public Utilities Commission

Cooperatives shall be deemed to be public utilities and under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission for all purposes, except that their rates and their bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness need not be approved by said commission. In keeping and rendering accounts to the commission, they may use the system of accounting required of them by federal law and regulation. Any person who has been refused membership in or service by a cooperative or who is receiving inadequate service may complain to the Public Utilities Com-

mission which may, after hearing, upon finding that such service may reasonably be rendered, order such person to be served with reasonably adequate service.'

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 35, § 2881, sub-§ 7, amended. Subsection 7 of section 2881 of Title 35 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

'7. Acquire certain plants and equipment. To construct, purchase, lease as lessee or otherwise acquire, and to equip, maintain and operate, and to sell, assign, convey, lease as lessor, mortgage, pledge or otherwise dispose of or encumber electric transmission and distribution lines or systems, electric generating plants, electric cold storage or processing plants, lands, buildings, structures, dams, plants and equipment, and any other real or personal property, tangible or intangible, which shall be deemed necessary, convenient or appropriate to accomplish the purpose for which the cooperative is organized; ~~a cooperative shall not have the power of eminent domain;~~ and in the construction and operation of their facilities, cooperatives shall comply with all safety laws and regulations applicable to electric companies;'