

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1104

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S. P. 378

In Senate, February 28, 1973

Referred to Committee on Public Utilities. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Greeley of Waldo.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT Relating to Public Utilities Commission Rate Regulation for  
Carriers of Freight.**

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 35, § 1553, amended.** The last sentence of section 1553 of Title 35 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Such person, firm or corporation and the service rendered or furnished shall be included under the general supervision and regulation of the commission and shall be subject to its jurisdiction and control in the same manner and to the same extent as service performed by other persons, firms or corporations engaged in the transportation of freight ~~or merchandise~~ as common carriers for hire, as provided in said chapters, except that sections 52, 69, 70 and 171 to 211 shall not so apply.

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 35, § 1554, amended.** Section 1554 of Title 35 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 392 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended by adding after the 4th sentence the following new sentences:

The commission may at any time before the effective date of such schedule, by delivering notice thereof to the agency filing such schedule and to the common carriers affected thereby, suspend the operation of such schedule or any part thereof, but not for a longer period than 120 days from the date of filing such schedule. The commission may, on its own motion or on complaint by an interested party, after notice and hearing, allow or disallow, alter or prescribe such rates. Whenever the commission receives notice of any change or changes in a schedule or schedules which it determines to be

a general rate increase, within 14 days thereafter it shall give such public notice, or require the carrier by whom such change is proposed to be made to give such public notice, of such changes as the commission deems necessary. For purposes of the preceding provision, a determination by the commission that any change is or is not a general rate increase is final and not subject to review.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to suspend motor common carrier rates and to provide for prompt determination of the reasonableness of such rates.