

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 690

H. P. 561

House of Representatives, February 18, 1975

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Peterson of Windham.

Cosponsors: Mrs. Goodwin of Bath; Mr. Hobbins of Saco; Mr. Wilfong of Stow.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Authorize Special Rates by Public Utilities for Older Citizens.

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

35 MRSA § 103, 2nd sentence, is amended to read:

Chapters 1 to 17 shall not prohibit such free or reduced rates by public utilities as is defined and provided for in the Acts of Congress entitled, "An Act to Regulate Commerce" and Acts amendatory thereof, nor free or reduced transportation to the officers of leased lines or to police officers or firemen in uniform or of municipal fire apparatus, call men of fire departments wearing badges, while going to or returning from fires, chiefs, captains, sergeants, lieutenants and inspectors of police departments, in plain clothes and wearing badges, editors and regular reporters of newspapers; nor shall it be construed to prohibit any public utility from granting service at free or reduced rates for charitable or benevolent purposes, or for national or civilian defense purposes, nor to prohibit any public utility from supplying water and service free or at reduced or special rates to any person, firm or corporation for fire protection purposes through or by means of any apparatus or appliances furnished, installed or maintained by such person, firm or corporation, provided the same be approved by the commission; nor shall it be unlawful for any public utility to make special rates to its employees or in case of emergency service or to households headed by those 62 years old and older, nor shall the furnishing by any public utility of any product or service at the rates and upon terms and conditions provided for in any contract in existence January 1, 1913 be construed as constituting a discrimination or undue or unreasonable preference or advantage within the meaning specified.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill would result in special rates being available to older citizens in the case of such critical services as transportation, telephone, electricity, water and sewer services.