

STATE OF MAINE SENATE 107TH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 379, L.D. 1230, Bill, "AN ACT Clarifying the Right to Appeal from Final Decisions of the Public Utilities Commission."

DOER

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. 35 MRSA §299 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:

Either the examiner or the commissioner, who is the presiding officer at said hearing, shall at the outset of said hearing inform the public as to the steps necessary to preserve their right to appeal the final order or decision of the commission to the Supreme Judicial Court under the provisions of sections 303 and 305.

Sec. 2. 35 MRSA §303, as last amended by PL 1965, c. 91, §4, is further amended by adding after the first sentence a new sentence to read:

Any person, who has opposed or participated in opposition to applications, petitions or commission proceedings upon which a public hearing was held and who is adversely affected by the final decision of the commission, is deemed a party for purposes of taking an appeal from such decision.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to require the presiding officer of PUC hearings to advise persons, some of whom may

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not be represented by counsel, attending the beginning of all PUC hearings how to perfect a right to appeal the commission's decision if they elect to do so.

Reported by the Committee on Public Utilities. Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A. May 14, 1975. (Filing No. S-150).