

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 209

H. P. 171

House of Representatives, February 1, 1977

On motion of Mr. Kelleher, referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

Cosponsor: Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Providing for Additional Staff for the Public Utilities Commission.**

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

**Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Utilities Commission the sum of \$232,897 to provide necessary additional staff requirements to administer the provisions of the public utilities regulatory law, Title 35 of the Maine Revised Statutes. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION	
Personal Services	(14) \$177,797
All Other	47,000
Capital Expenditures	8,100
	<hr/> \$232,897

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Public Utilities Commission's workload has substantially increased over the past 10 years while its technical staff has basically remained unchanged. In this day of increased consumerism, inflation and legislative man-

dated responsibilities, the number of formal complaints and rate cases have substantially grown and it is fast reaching the point where it is physically impossible to process rate cases within the statutory 9-month period for processing such cases. This legislation would add 4 additional accountants, 4 additional engineers, 2 additional lawyers, 3 additional clerical employees and 1 research assistant for the Commission.