

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1009

H. P. 836

House of Representatives, March 15, 1977

On motion of Mr. Kelleher of Bangor referred to the Committee on Public Utilities. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kany of Waterville.

Cosponsor: Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Concerning the Operating Expenses of Public Utilities.

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

35 MRSA § 51-A is enacted to read:

§ 51-A. Limitations on rates

The following expenses, whether paid directly or indirectly, through reimbursement or otherwise, incurred by a public utility shall not be included or incorporated in operating expenses for rate-making purposes:

1. Contributions to political groups or candidates. Contributions or gifts to political candidates, political parties, political or legislative committees or to any committees or organizations working to influence referendum petitions or elections, and

2. Expenses paid to organizations active in legislative or election process. All expenses, including lobbying, public relations or dues to any organization associated with any attempts to influence any legislation or election at the local, state or national level.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to restrict the types of expenses that may be considered as operating expenses by a utility in setting its rates. It would prevent the utility from including as operating expenses contributions or gifts made to political candidates, parties, committees or organizations attempting to influence elections or voting. It would also exclude expenses paid to organizations attempting to influence any legislation or election.