

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

(Filing No. H-656)

HOUSE AMENDMENT"~~8~~" to H.P. 1669, L.D. 1867, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide Lifeline Electrical Services."

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§83." by inserting after the first paragraph the following:

'1. Income. "Income" means the sum of Maine adjusted gross income determined in accordance with Title 36, chapter 801, the amount of capital gains excluded from adjusted gross income, alimony, support money, nontaxable strike benefits, the gross amount of any pension or annuity including railroad retirement benefits, all payments received under the Federal Social Security Act, state unemployment insurance laws and veterans disability pensions, nontaxable interest received from the Federal Government or any of its instrumentalities, workmen's compensation and the gross amount of "loss of time" insurance, cash public assistance and relief, but not including relief granted under Title 36, chapter 901. It does not include gifts from nongovernmental sources or surplus foods or other relief in kind supplied by a governmental agency.'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§83." by renumbering subsections 1 and 2 to be subsections 2 and 3.

Further amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§84." subsection 2, by striking out all of paragraph B and inserting in its place the following:

'B. For the rate block between 500 kilowatt hours and 1,000 kilowatt hours, electric utilities shall file a single rate which shall achieve equality in the base bill amount between residential service rates and lifeline service rates at a monthly usage level of 1,000 kilowatt hours.

C. If any residential customer eligible for the lifeline rate shall in any month utilize more than 1,000 kilowatt hours, he shall be billed at the regular applicable residential rate for all electricity used during that month.'

Further amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of that part designated "§85." and inserting in its place the following:

'§85. Eligibility

To be eligible for the lifeline rate, each residential customer shall be an older citizen as defined in this Act. To be eligible, the older citizen and all other persons living in the older citizen's household shall ^{have} a combined annual adjusted gross income of \$6,500 or less. In order to obtain a lifeline rate, an older citizen shall apply to the Public Utilities Commission or an agency designated by the commission for approval. The older citizen shall provide the commission or agency with all the necessary information to determine whether the older citizen is eligible.'

Further amend the bill by inserting before section 2 the following:

'§87. Support information; state agencies

All state agencies are authorized to provide whatever support services, informational support, evaluative services and other such assistance as may be requested by the Public Utilities Commission in carrying out the objectives of The Lifeline Electrical Service Act.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment;

1. Clarifies the eligibility requirements of the bill;
2. Provides for cooperation between various state agencies; and
3. Provides a lifeline rate between 500 kilowatt and 1,000 kilowatt hours.

Filed by Mr. Connolly of Portland.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk
of the House.
6/15/77

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