

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2007

S. P. 640

Office of the Secretary of the Senate

Governor's Bill. The Committee on Public Utilities suggested.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Cummings of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

**AN ACT Relating to the Responsibilities of the Chairman of the Public Utilities
Commission.**

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

35 MRSA § 1, first ¶, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 771, § 390, is further amended by inserting after the 3rd sentence the following new sentence:

The chairman shall be responsible for the oversight of internal administrative matters and shall have the authority to determine internal employment policies, except that the employment of persons to fill offices authorized by this section and of division heads within the commission shall be subject to the approval of the commission.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Public Utilities statutes are silent as to the responsibilities of the chairman of the commission and do not charge any person with overall administrative responsibilities of the commission and its staff. A recent report on the Public Utilities Commission prepared for the Governor's office disclosed that the effectiveness of the commission had suffered because there was no person designated by law to have administrative responsibility for the commission. This bill would assign the chairman of the commission responsibility for internal administrative matters of the commission.