

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-304)  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 840, L.D. 1043, Bill, "AN  
ACT to Provide for Lifeline Electrical Service.

Amend the bill in section 1, in that part designated  
"§83." by striking out all of subsection 2 and inserting in  
its place the following:

'2. Residential customer. "Residential customer" means  
an individual customer of an electric utility who is a Maine  
resident.'

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

Each residential customer, 65 years or older, who resides  
in a household in which the total annual adjusted gross income  
is \$6,500 or less shall be eligible for the lifeline rate. In  
order to obtain a lifeline rate a residential customer shall  
follow the procedure established by the Public Utilities Commis-  
sion pursuant to rules promulgated under section 86. The appli-  
cant shall provide all the necessary information to determine  
whether or not the applicant is available.

All state agencies shall provide whatever support services, informational support, evaluative services and any other assistance as required by the Public Utilities Commission in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.'

Further amend the bill in section 2 of the bill, by striking out all of the last line and inserting in its place the following:

'All Other	\$750,000	\$750,000'
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Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to make the bill more clear and to reduce the appropriation. According to this amendment, eligible persons for the lifeline rate are required to be Maine residents. The requirement that eligible persons remain within the State for 270 days has been removed to avoid statutory conflicts and constitutional problems. In addition, eligible customers are defined as customers in a household in which the total household income is \$6,500 or less.

This amendment also provides that state agencies, as required by the PUC, will assist the PUC in determining eligibility of applicants and administering the chapter.

Filed by Mr. Brenerman of Portland  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the  
Clerk of the House.  
4/30/79 (Filing No. H-304)