

# 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)

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-308)  
109TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

Amend the Bill by striking out at the beginning of the first line after the enacting clause the underlined abbreviation and figure "Sec. 1."

Further 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, who is a Maine resident, of an electric utility.'

Further amend the Bill in section 1 in that part designated "§84." by inserting at the end the following:

'3. Funding of lifeline rate program. The lifeline rate program shall be funded from revenues derived from rates charged to users.'

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 Commission pursuant to rules promulgated under section 86. The applicant shall provide all the necessary information to determine whether or not the applicant is eligible.

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 this chapter.'

Further amend the Bill by striking out all of section 2.

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to make the bill clearer and to fund the lifeline rate program from rates charged to users. 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 Public Utilities Commission, will assist the Public Utilities Commission in determining eligibility of applicants and administering the chapter.

Filed by Mr. Connolly of Portland  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the  
Clerk of the House  
5/1/79 (Filing No. H-308)