

L.D. 1859

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-716) 110TH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1865, L.D. 1859, Bill, "AN ACT to Restrict Rate Increase Proposals by Public Utilities."
Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:
'35 MRSA §64, as amended by PL 1981, c. 408, is further amended by inserting after the first paragraph 2 new para-graphs to read:
Without the approval of the commission, no utility may

14 15 file a schedule or schedules for a general increase in rates 16 pursuant to this section within one year of a prior filing 17 for a general increase in rates pursuant to this section. 18 This requirement shall not prevent any utility, at any time, 19 from notifying the commission in advance, either voluntarily or in accordance with a commission requirement under this 20 section, of its plans to file a general increase in rates. Nothing in this section may be construed to limit any utility's right, at any time, to petition pursuant to 21 22 23 24 section 311 for temporary rate relief.

For the purposes of this section, a "general increase in rates" is defined as any change in the rates, tolls and charges of the public utility, the effect of which is to increase the annual operating revenues of a public utility by more than 1%, provided that this term shall not include a rate change made for the sole purpose of implementing a fuel cost adjustment rate, pursuant to section 131.'

32 STATEMENT OF FACT

1

6 7 8

The amendment prevents public utilities from filing for more than one general rate increase within one year. Rate increases of less than 1% of intrastate annual operating revenues are exempt, as are requests for temporary rate 1 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1865, L.D. 1859

2 relief under Title 35, section 311.

3

5304032082

Reported by the Committee on Public Utilities. Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

3/30/82

(Filing No. H-716)