

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1855

6
7 S.P. 671

In Senate, January 4, 1984

8 Reference to the Committee on Public Utilities. Ordered printed and sent
9 down for concurrence.

10 Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint
Rule 26.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

11 Presented by Senator Baldacci of Penobscot.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR
16

17 AN ACT Concerning Public Utility Commission
18 Approval of Temporary Rate Changes.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 35 MRSA §311-A, first ¶, as enacted by
23 PL 1981, c. 467, is amended to read:

24 During any proceeding initiated by a public util-
25 ity by a filing pursuant to section 64 or 298, the
26 commission may approve, temporarily, any undisputed
27 amounts of a requested rate increase or rate de-
28 crease. In the event that the parties to any section
29 64 proceeding are unable within 45 days of the filing
30 date to collectively and mutually agree on an undis-
31 puted amount of a requested rate increase, the com-
32 mission may approve, temporarily, any portion of the
33 rate increase request which the commission finds to
34 be of a nature not normally the subject of a major
35 dispute; provided that any amount approved, pursuant

1 to the commission action in excess of that amount ul-
2 timately approved in the issuance of the final order
3 in the section 64 proceeding, is subject to refund to
4 the utilities' customers on a basis comparable to
5 which it was billed and over a time period substan-
6 tially the same as the period the temporary rates
7 were in effect. The amounts temporarily approved
8 shall be filed by the utility as a temporary schedule
9 which shall be effective from the date of approval of
10 the temporary schedule until the issuance of the fi-
11 nal order in the section 64 proceeding.

12 Sec. 2. 35 MRS §311-A, sub-§2, as enacted by PL
13 1981, c. 467, is amended to read:

14 2. Statement. The fact that that rate increase
15 allowed under this section was undisputed or that al-
16 though disputed it was approved by the commission,
17 subject to partial or full refund if the commission
18 in its final order approves an amount less than the
19 increase allowed by the temporary rate schedule;

20 STATEMENT OF FACT

21 This bill empowers the Public Utilities Commis-
22 sion to approve temporary rates under bond and sub-
23 ject to refund when it determines the rates not rea-
24 sonably subject to dispute.

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