

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 335

(Filing No. S- 30 )

STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
112TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 120, L.D. 335,  
Bill, "AN ACT to Protect Tenants when Landlords Fail  
to Pay Utility Bills."

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Amend the Bill in that part designated "316." by  
striking out all of subsection 2 and inserting in its  
place the following:

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'2. Disconnection of tenant. In every instance  
where the landlord has applied for and is granted  
utility service, the landlord is responsible for pay-  
ment for that service with respect to any rental  
property. The utility may not demand payment from the  
tenant for utility service to the tenant because of  
the landlord's failure to pay for utility service  
rendered at the rental property. The utility may dis-  
connect the tenant only after affording the tenant  
notice and opportunity to assume responsibility for  
future service in accordance with the rules of the  
commission.'

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Further amend the Bill in that part designated  
"§316." in subsection 3 in the first line (page 2,  
line 17 in L.D.) by striking out the underlined word  
"In" and inserting in its place the following:  
'Notwithstanding section 3225, in'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This amendment makes it clear that the landlord  
is responsible for payment for utility service when  
the landlord applies for and is granted that service.  
Currently, the Public Utilities Commission's discon-  
nect regulations, chapter 81, state the procedure for  
utilities to follow prior to disconnecting a tenant

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 120, L.D. 335

1 for the landlord's nonpayment. This amendment ensures  
2 that the procedures in that rule would still apply in  
3 that situation. There is also a technical amendment  
4 to make it clear that the lien provision does apply  
5 despite the prohibition of the Maine Revised Stat-  
6 utes, Title 35, section 3225.

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Reported by Senator Baldacci for the Committee on Utilities  
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(3/26/85)

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