

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1321

(Filing No. S-142)

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
112TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 495, L.D. 1321, Bill, "AN ACT to Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to Act on an Expedited Basis in Certain Cases."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'35 MRSA §293, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 694, §664, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

In proceedings pursuant to section 291, 296 or 306, after reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard, the commission may issue a temporary order pending the conclusion of the formal public hearing. In making such an order, the commission shall consider the likelihood that such an order would be issued at the conclusion of the proceeding, the benefit to the public or affected customers compared to the harm to the utility or other customers of issuing such an order and the public interest. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, upon a written finding that the procedural requirements otherwise required by law will result in unreasonable harm to a utility, a customer or the public, the commission may establish such accelerated notice periods, schedules and limitations on hearings as may be necessary to expedite consideration of such an order.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Maine Revised Statutes, section 293, now requires the Public Utilities Commission to hold a for-

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 495, L.D. 1321

1 mal hearing before it can issue an order in certain
2 cases. This amendment amends section 293 to autho-
3 rize the commission to issue a temporary order in
4 special circumstances pending completion of a formal
5 proceeding. This amendment also amends section 293
6 to authorize the commission to establish an acceler-
7 ated procedure in order to expedite the commission-
8 er's consideration of whether a temporary order
9 should be issued.

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Reported by Senator Andrews for the Committee on Utilities.
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