

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1957

(Filing No. S-476)

STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
112TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A " to H.P. 1388, L.D. 1957,  
Bill, "AN ACT Concerning Local Telephone Service Rate  
Structure."

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

'35 MRSA §80 is enacted to read:

§80. Local telephone service rates

1. Policy. It is the policy of the State that the rates for local telephone service to both business and residential customers shall be just and reasonable and take into account people's ability to pay.

2. Rate structure. The rate structure for local telephone service shall include a fixed monthly charge, as determined by the commission, to make an appropriate contribution to the fixed costs of the telephone system. This contribution shall be set in a way that recognizes the cost savings resulting from joint use of common telecommunications facilities by local, toll and other services and that equitably shares the benefits of those cost savings among all services;

3. Measurement of local usage. The commission may approve a measured service rate only when it finds that such a rate is not inconsistent with other provisions of law, that it is fair and equitable, that it is consistent with the universal service policy of section 74 and that the net economic benefits to the telephone system and its users will exceed the net economic cost of implementing that usage charge.

SENATE AMENDMENT " A " to H.P. 1388, L.D. 1957

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2           The amendment drops most of the original bill and  
3 simply retains provisions to provide assurance that  
4 in designing the rate structure for local telephone  
5 service, the commission will take into consideration  
6 people's ability to pay, establish appropriate con-  
7 tributions from all kinds of services for the cost of  
8 common facilities, and with respect to measured ser-  
9 vice, that the benefits of such measurement exceed  
10 the costs. The bill as amended does not require the  
11 Public Utilities Commission to use any specific meth-  
12 od of allocation of the cost of common facilities  
13 among the services that use those facilities, but  
14 leaves the method to the discretion of the commis-  
15 sion.

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(Sen. Baldacci)

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COUNTY: Penobscot

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