

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATUR	ONE	HUNDRED	AND	THIRTEENTH	LEGISLATURE
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#### Legislative Document

NO. 1079 . . . . . . . . . . . .

H.P. 805 Reference to the Committee on Utilities suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative ALLEN of Washington. Cosponsored by Representatives MILLS of Bethel, HUSSEY of Milo and Senator ERWIN of Oxford.

## STATE OF MAINE

#### IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 2 3	AN ACT Regarding Electric Rates for Volunteer Fire Associations.
4 5	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
6	30 MRSA \$3779 is enacted to read:
7 8	<u>§3779. Electric rates for volunteer fire associa-</u> tions
9	1. Waiver of customer charge. For any qualify-
10	ing volunteer fire association which is served under
11	an electric rate class other than the residential
12	class, 1/2 of any customer charge for electric ser-
13	vice may be waived in accordance with this section.

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1	2. Qualifications. A volunteer fire association
2	is qualified for rate treatment under this section
3	if:
4	A. The total salaries of the association are
5	less than 10% of the annual expenditures of the
6	association;
7 8	B. Tax support is less than 50% of the annual income of the association;
9 10	C. The station house is not staffed according to any regular schedule; and
11	D. The electrical use of the association is less
12	than 500 kilowatt-hours in any month.
13	3. Funding. The electric utility providing ser-
14	vice to any volunteer fire association which receives
15	a waiver under subsection 1 is entitled to an abate-
16	ment of local property taxes equal to the lesser of
17	the cost of the waiver over the prior year or the
18	amount of the property tax assessed.
19 20 21 22	4. Municipal approval. Any waiver under this section shall take effect only if approved by the legislative body of the municipality where the volun-teer fire association is located.
23	STATEMENT OF FACT
24	The purpose of this bill is to establish rates
25	for volunteer fire associations which will be less
26	than the general service rate or equivalent for small
27	nonresidential customers. These rates will still be
28	higher than the residential rate. Funding is pro-
29	vided by a reduction in local property taxes paid by
30	the utility. The program is subject to local approv-
31	al by the legislative body of the municipality.

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