

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)  
(After Deadline)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

NO. 1861

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H.P. 1359 House of Representatives, June 15, 1987  
Approved for introduction by a majority of the  
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Utilities suggested and  
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk  
Presented by Representative VOSE of Eastport.  
Cosponsored by Senator KERRY of York.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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1                   Resolve, to Reconstitute the 9-1-1 Study  
2                   Commission.  
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4                   Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of  
5 the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days  
6 after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

7                   Whereas, the 9-1-1 Study Commission created by  
8 statute in 1986 has made its report and been dis-  
9 solved on June 1st; and

10                   Whereas, that commission found a clear need that  
11 all citizens of the State be able to rapidly summon  
12 help in an emergency and that a uniform statewide  
13 system using 9-1-1 would make that easier; and

1           Whereas, that commission also found that there  
2 are several barriers to immediate adoption of a  
3 statewide 9-1-1 system, including the fact that mu-  
4 nicipal boundaries do not coincide with telephone  
5 boundaries, the existence of multiple emergency ser-  
6 vice agencies in a community, the low population den-  
7 sity in rural areas and the cost of installation and  
8 operation of the system; and

9           Whereas, that commission recommended that the  
10 State regulate basic 9-1-1, and that state legisla-  
11 tion provide for selective routing to be provided  
12 statewide; and

13           Whereas, that study concluded by recommending im-  
14 plementation of basic 9-1-1 in rural areas where tel-  
15 ephone boundaries and community boundaries coincide  
16 and implementation of enhanced 9-1-1 in the heavily  
17 populated counties of Maine, but with local approval  
18 of special features; and

19           Whereas, the members of that study commission  
20 have recommended that study of the issue be contin-  
21 ued, with the goal of introducing implementing legis-  
22 lation in the Second Regular Session of the 113th  
23 Legislature; and

24           Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
25 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
26 the Constitution of Maine and require the following  
27 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
28 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
29 therefore, be it

30           **Commission created and charged. Resolved:** That  
31 a 9-1-1 Study Commission is reconstituted to study  
32 the issues relating to implementation of a 9-1-1  
33 emergency telephone service statewide. This commis-  
34 sion is a successor to the commission established by  
35 the Private and Special Law of 1985, chapter 114, and  
36 extended by the Private and Special Law of 1987,  
37 chapter 5. This commission shall review the findings  
38 and recommendations of the previous commission, shall  
39 consider the economic and technical problems involved  
40 in implementing 9-1-1, including such factors as the  
41 cost, the allocation of cost, safety and other bene-  
42 fits, the need for selective routing and the choice

1 of enhanced or basic 9-1-1 service, appropriate  
2 timetables for installation and the special needs of  
3 rural and urban areas, and shall make findings and  
4 recommendations concerning the appropriate state pol-  
5 icy with respect to 9-1-1 and mechanisms for funding  
6 and implementing that policy; and be it further.

7 **Appointment. Resolved:** That the commission  
8 shall consist of 9 members, appointed in the follow-  
9 ing manner: One Senator, appointed by the President  
10 of the Senate; 2 members of the House of Representa-  
11 tives appointed by the Speaker of the House; one mem-  
12 ber from the staff of the Public Utilities Commis-  
13 sion, designated by that commission; the Commissioner  
14 of Public Safety; and the Public Advocate or their  
15 designees; and 3 members appointed by the Governor,  
16 including a member representing the Maine Municipal  
17 Association, a member representing a telephone utili-  
18 ty providing local service and a member representing  
19 the previous 9-1-1 commission. Appointments shall be  
20 made by July 15, 1987, and each person required to  
21 make an appointment or designation shall inform the  
22 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House,  
23 the Executive Director of the Legislative Council and  
24 the Governor upon making those appointments; and be  
25 it further

26 **Convening of commission. Resolved:** That when  
27 the appointment of all commission members is com-  
28 pleted, but in no event later than August 1, 1987,  
29 the chairman of the study commission shall call the  
30 commission together for its first meeting. The mem-  
31 ber from the Public Utilities Commission shall be the  
32 chairman; and be it further

33 **Report. Resolved:** That the commission shall  
34 present its findings, together with any recommended  
35 legislation on or before December 1, 1987, to the  
36 joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
37 jurisdiction over public utilities, which shall re-  
38 view the report and submit any recommended legisla-  
39 tion to the Second Regular Session of the 113th Leg-  
40 islature, by January 30, 1988; and be it further

41 **Assistance. Resolved:** That staff assistance to  
42 the 9-1-1 study commission shall be provided by the  
43 Public Utilities Commission with assistance from the

1 Department of Public Safety and the Public Advocate;  
2 and be it further

3           **Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the  
4 commission who are Legislators, and the member repre-  
5 senting the previous commission shall receive the  
6 legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised  
7 Statutes, Title 3, section 2, for each day's attend-  
8 ance at commission meetings. All members of the com-  
9 mission shall receive reimbursement for expenses; and  
10 be it further

11           **Assessment. Resolved:** That every telephone  
12 utility providing local service, with intrastate  
13 gross annual operating revenues exceeding  
14 \$50,000,000, shall be subject to a special assessment  
15 to produce no more than a total of \$10,000 for the  
16 conduct of this study. The assessment shall be as-  
17 sessed by the Public Utilities Commission and shall  
18 be due on July 15, 1987. The assessment charged to  
19 utilities under this section is a just and reasonable  
20 operating cost for rate-making purposes. All money  
21 collected under this provision shall be paid to the  
22 Treasurer of State and deposited in a separate ac-  
23 count in the Public Utilities Commission Reimburse-  
24 ment Fund. Any expended funds remaining in that ac-  
25 count on July 1, 1988, shall be returned proportion-  
26 ately to any utility assessed; and be it further

27           **Allocation. Resolved:** That the following funds  
28 are allocated from the Public Utilities Commission  
29 Reimbursement Fund to carry out the purposes of this  
30 resolve:

31 1987-88

32 PUBLIC UTILITIES  
33 COMMISSION

34       9-1-1 Study Commission

35       Personal Services	\$ 330
36       All Other	6,415
37	
38       Total	<u>\$6,745</u>

39 LEGISLATURE

