

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2174

H.P. 1569

House of Representatives, January 10, 1990

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Utilities suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

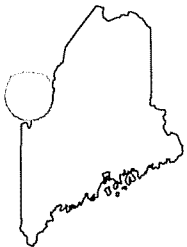
Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.

Cosponsored by Senator BOST of Penobscot, Representative PARADIS of Old Town and Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Require Notice of Charges for Use of Telephones Made Available for Public Use.



2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

4 Sec. 1. 35-A MRSa §7102, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

6 3. Public telephone. "Public telephone" means a telephone
8 made available for voice message use by members of the transient
10 or general public for compensation, including pay telephones and
12 any telephones provided for the use of lodgers in or patrons of
14 hotels, motels, hospitals, medical and convalescent care
facilities, academic institutions, transportation terminals,
government offices, public buildings, restaurants or other places
of public accommodation or prisons and other confinement
facilities.

16 Sec. 2. 35-A MRSa §7305 is enacted to read:

18 §7305. Notice of charges for use of public telephones

20 1. Notice of charges. Any person who owns, controls,
22 operates or manages a public telephone shall provide a written
24 notice within the immediate vicinity of the telephone and plainly
26 visible to any person using the telephone. The notice must
28 identify the name, address and telephone number of the person who
owns, controls, operates or manages the telephone to whom
complaints regarding the public telephone may be directed. The
notice must inform the person using the telephone how to reach
local emergency service. The notice must also specify the rates
or charges for use of the telephone including charges for local
calls, intrastate calls, so-called "800" or other toll-free
calls, uncompleted calls, incoming calls, collect calls,
3rd-party calls and credit card calls. The notice must also
contain the identity of the long distance company that serves the
telephone and the rates or charges imposed by the long distance
company.

36 2. Charges limited where no notice. Any person who owns,
38 controls, operates or manages a public telephone and fails to
40 provide the notice required by subsection 1 may not demand or
42 receive compensation for use of the telephone in excess of
charges imposed by the local exchange telephone utility serving
that area with respect to that use.

44 STATEMENT OF FACT

46 This bill addresses situations in which members of the
48 public are charged to use public telephones such as pay
telephones and telephones in hotels, motels, hospitals, academic
50 institutions, airports and other places of public accommodation.
The bill requires written notice of the rates and charges and the
52 identity of the owner of the telephone. Any person who fails to
provide notice may not recover any charges in excess of those
charged by the local telephone utility for the same service.