

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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UTILITIES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
116TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1096, L.D. 1483, Bill, "An Act Regarding Cable Television"

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3010, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 352, is amended to read:

A. In the event service to any subscriber is interrupted for 24 6 or more consecutive hours, it will, upon request, grant that subscriber a pro rata credit or rebate.

Sec. 2. Introduction of legislation authorized. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities matters may report out legislation to the First Regular Session or the Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature that the committee determines necessary to implement the regulatory authority granted to the State under rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to the federal Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992.

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of the Attorney General may incur some minor increased costs associated with handling additional cable television subscriber complaints. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill.

Current law provides that in the event service to a cable TV subscriber is interrupted for 24 or more consecutive hours, the cable provider is required, upon request, to grant the subscriber a pro rata credit or rebate. This amendment reduces the time period for interruptions from 24 hours to 6 hours.

This amendment also authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities matters to report out legislation to the 117th Legislature in response to evolving federal regulations concerning cable TV regulation.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.