

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 551

S.P. 208

In Senate, February 14, 1995

**An Act to Protect Cable Television Consumers from Excessive Late Fees.**

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Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARPENTER of York.

Cosponsored by Senators: BEGLEY of Lincoln, LORD of York, Representatives:  
GIERINGER of Portland, MORRISON of Bangor, O'NEAL of Limestone, TAYLOR of  
Cumberland.

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

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**Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3010, sub-§6-B,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 676, §2, is further amended to read:

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**6-B. Late fees.** A cable television system operator may not charge a late fee ~~or other penalty or charge for late payment of~~ on any bill for basic cable service, as defined in the federal Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, 47 United States Code, Section 522, that exceeds ~~1.5% per month of~~ the maximum amount ~~due in the bill established under Title 9-A, Article II, Part 2.~~ If the bill includes separate charges for different levels of service, a late fee or other penalty or charge must be calculated on the total amount overdue for all levels of service and may not be calculated separately for each level of service. A payment is not late under this subsection until at least 30 days after those services to which the late fee applies have been received by the consumer.

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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This bill changes the late fee limitation enacted by the 116th Legislature to the amount permitted under the federal Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984.

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