

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 711

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H.P. 521

House of Representatives, March 2, 1995

**An Act to Make Allocations from the Public Advocate Regulatory Fund  
for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1996 and June 30, 1997.**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative KERR of Old Orchard Beach. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)  
Cosponsored by Senator: HANLEY of Oxford.

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not  
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted  
as emergencies; and

4  
6 **Whereas,** the 90-day period may not terminate until after the  
beginning of the next fiscal year; and

8 **Whereas,** certain obligations and expenses incident to the  
operation of the Office of the Public Advocate will become due  
and payable on or immediately after July 1, 1995; and

10  
12 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
14 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
16 safety; now, therefore,

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

20 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §116, sub-§8,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 633,  
§§1 and 2 and affected by §3, is further amended by amending the  
22 first paragraph to read:

24 **8. Public Advocate assessment.** Every utility subject to  
assessment under this section is subject to an additional annual  
26 assessment on its intrastate gross operating revenues to produce  
~~\$557,307~~ \$617,680 in revenues for fiscal year 1993-94 1995-96 and  
28 ~~\$571,615~~ \$625,781 in fiscal year 1994-95 1996-97 for operating  
the Office of Public Advocate. The revenues produced from this  
30 assessment are transferred to the Public Advocate Regulatory Fund  
and may only be used to fulfill the duties specified in chapter  
32 17. The assessments charged to utilities under this subsection  
are considered just and reasonable operating costs for  
34 rate-making purposes. The Public Advocate shall develop a method  
of accounting for staff time within the Office of Public  
36 Advocate. All professional and support staff shall account for  
their time in such a way as to identify the percentage of time  
38 devoted to public utility regulation and the percentage of time  
devoted to other duties that may be required by law.

40  
42 **Sec. 2. Allocation of funds.** Income to the Public Advocate  
Regulatory Fund for fiscal year 1995-96 and fiscal year 1996-97  
must be segregated, apportioned and disbursed as designated in  
44 the following schedule.

46 **1995-96** **1996-97**

48 **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

50 **Office of the Public Advocate**

