



## **117th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1151

H.P. 820

House of Representatives, April 4, 1995

## An Act to Allow Local Control over the Allocation of Public Fire Protection Costs.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative ADAMS of Portland. Cosponsored by Representative: KONTOS of Windham.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6114 is enacted to read:
§6114. Fire protection charges; municipal ordinances
Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a municipality
that pays to a water utility a charge for the utility's capacity to provide water for public fire protection may by ordinance
determine that the charge may not be paid from municipal revenues. The municipality may stop paying a fire protection
charge on the first day of the water utility's next fiscal year following the receipt by the utility of written notice of the
passage of the ordinance, provided the notice is received by the utility at least 60 days prior to the beginning of that fiscal
year.
A water utility shall allocate the costs of providing capacity to provide water for public fire protection to a
municipality that has determined that the charge may not be paid from municipal revenues pursuant to this section to the utility's
metered users. The commission may by rule or order determine the proper allocation of fire protection costs pursuant to its
authority under this Title, provided that any such allocation does not defeat the purpose of this section.
STATEMENT OF FACT
This bill permits municipalities to cease paying public fire protection charges to water utilities. Water utilities would be
required to shift those charges to metered users. This would result in these charges being paid by the customers of the
utility rather than by taxpayers in the municipality.

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