

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: *March 24, 1998*

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1647, L.D. 2277, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Majority of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy Arising from Its Government Evaluation Act Review of the Office of the Public Advocate"

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause the following:

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §116, sub-§8, ¶C-1, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 633, §2 and affected by §3, is amended to read:

C-1. Except as specified in this subsection, funds that are not expended at the end of a fiscal year do not lapse but must be carried forward to be expended for the purposes specified in this section in succeeding fiscal years; but, with the exception of funds carried forward from fiscal year 1996-97 to fiscal year 1997-98, unexpended funds in excess of 10% of the total annual assessment authorized in this section must, at the option of the Public Advocate, either be presented to the Legislature in accordance with paragraph A for reallocation and expenditure or used to reduce the utility assessment in the following fiscal year. In the case of funds carried forward from fiscal year 1996-97 to fiscal year 1997-98, 100% of these funds may be expended for the purposes specified in this section.

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following:

'Sec. 2. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from Other Special Revenue to carry out the purposes of this Act.

R.S.

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1997-98

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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Public Advocate

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All Other

\$60,483

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Provides funds from the unexpended balance at the end of fiscal year 1996-97 to cover increased costs associated with rate cases and the closing of the Maine Yankee Nuclear Power Plant.'

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Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

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FISCAL NOTE

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1997-98

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APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

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Other Funds

\$60,483

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This amendment authorizes the Office of the Public Advocate's unobligated fiscal year 1996-97 Other Special Revenue balance of \$60,483 to be carried forward into fiscal year 1997-98 and provides an allocation of the same amount in fiscal year 1997-98 to support increased costs.

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SUMMARY

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This amendment authorizes unspent funds in the Public Advocate Regulatory Fund for fiscal year 1996-97 to be carried forward in their entirety for use in fiscal year 1997-98.

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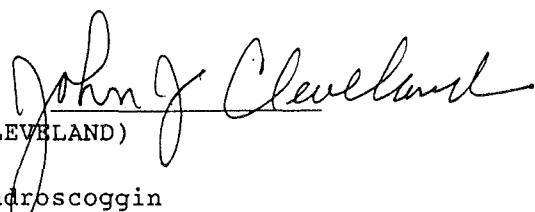
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This amendment also adds an allocation section to the bill.

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SPONSORED BY:



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(Senator CLEVELAND)

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COUNTY: Androscoggin

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