

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 554

H.P. 412

House of Representatives, January 19, 1999

An Act to Provide Affordable Computer-based Information Networks.

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

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SAMSON of Jay.

Cosponsored by Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, BRYANT of Dixfield, COTE of Lewiston, GERRY of Auburn, HATCH of Skowhegan, POVICH of Ellsworth.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §7307** is enacted to read:

6 **§7307. Internet access**

8 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, after December
10 31, 1999, any telephone call initiated and completed within a
12 flat-rate, basic service calling area that is carried beyond the
14 basic service calling area for the purpose of accessing the
16 Internet or other computer-based information network is deemed to
18 have terminated within the basic service calling area and the
20 customer making the call must be billed for the call at the basic
22 service flat rate. By January 1, 2000, the commission shall
24 adopt rules implementing this section. The rules must specify a
26 means of identifying calls that are governed by this section and
28 may provide a cost recovery mechanism for carriers. Rules
30 adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as
32 defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill provides that any telephone call made within a
26 flat-rate, basic service calling area that is carried beyond the
28 basic service calling area for the purpose of accessing the
30 Internet or other computer-based information network is deemed to
32 have terminated within the basic service calling area and the
customer making the call must be billed at the basic service flat
rate. The Public Utilities Commission is directed to adopt rules
implementing this provision.