

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 672

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S.P. 250

In Senate, January 26, 1999

**An Act to Permit Water Utilities and Sewer and Sanitary Districts to  
Establish Lower Rates for Elderly Homeowners.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin.

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

2  
3 Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6105, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1987, c.  
4 141, Pt. A, §6, is amended to read:

6 3. **Uniform rates.** ~~The Except as provided in this~~  
7 ~~subsection, the~~ governing body shall establish and file rates  
8 ~~which that~~ are uniform within the territory supplied whenever the  
9 installation and maintenance of mains and the cost of service ~~is~~  
10 ~~are~~ substantially uniform. If, for any reason, the cost of  
11 construction and maintenance or the cost of service in a section  
12 of the territory exceeds the average, the governing body may  
13 establish and file higher rates for that section, but these  
14 higher rates shall ~~must~~ be uniform throughout that section.  
15 Notwithstanding section 703, the governing body may establish a  
16 discount rate for residential consumers who are 65 years of age  
17 or older.

18  
19 Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §6105-A is enacted to read:

20 §6501-A. Rates of private water companies

21  
22 Notwithstanding section 703, a private water company may  
23 establish a discount rate for residential consumers who are 65  
24 years of age or older.

25  
26 Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §1202, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c. 461,  
27 §3, is further amended to read:

28  
29 Rates ~~Except as provided in this section, rates, tolls,~~  
30 ~~rents and entrance charges shall must~~ be uniform within ~~sueh the~~  
31 district, whenever the cost to the district of installation and  
32 maintenance of sewers or their appurtenances and the cost of  
33 service ~~is are~~ substantially uniform; but nothing ~~shall-~~preclude~~~~  
34 ~~precludes~~ the district, from establishing a higher rate, toll,  
35 rent or entrance charge than the regular rates, tolls, rents and  
36 entrance charges in sections where, for any reason, the cost to  
37 the district of construction and maintenance, or the cost of  
38 service, exceeds the average, but ~~sueh the~~ higher rates, tolls,  
39 rents and entrance charges shall ~~must~~ be uniform throughout the  
40 sections where they apply. The district may establish a discount  
41 rate for residential consumers who are 65 years of age or older.

42  
43 Sec. 4. 38 MRSA §1252, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

44  
45 1-A. Discount rate schedule. A sewer district may  
46 establish a discount rate for residential consumers who are 65  
47 years of age or older.

50

## SUMMARY

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4       This bill authorizes public and private water utilities and  
sanitary and sewer districts to establish a discount rate for  
residential consumers who are 65 years of age or older.