

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 959

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H.P. 740

House of Representatives, February 20, 2001

**An Act to Change the Assessment for Sprinkler Systems to a Per-use basis.**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative MICHAEL of Auburn.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6114** is enacted to read:

6 **§6114. Fire protection charges**

8 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Title, after  
10 January 1, 2002, the charge a water utility collects from a  
12 customer for water service to support the operation of a private  
14 fire protection system, including private hydrants, automatic  
16 sprinkler systems, standpipes and other appurtenances installed  
18 by the customer to assist in extinguishing fires, must be based  
20 on actual metered water use.

22 **Sec. 2. Public Utilities Commission rules; application.** By January  
24 1, 2002, the Public Utilities Commission shall amend Chapter 640  
26 of its rules to bring them into accordance with the provisions of  
28 section 1 of this Act. The rules must establish the method of  
calculating fire protection charges and may not permit a water  
utility to impose charges for services to private fire protection  
systems based on demand potential rather than actual usage.

24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill provides that beginning January 1, 2002, the  
28 charge a water utility collects from a customer for water service  
to support the operation of a private fire protection system must  
be based on actual metered water use and not potential use.