

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 569

H.P. 432

House of Representatives, February 11, 2003

**An Act To Allow the Public Utilities Commission To Exempt
Certain Telephone Utilities from the Requirement To Obtain
Approval for Special Contracts**

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BLISS of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator HALL of Lincoln and
Representative: RINES of Wiscasset.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §703, sub-§3-B** is enacted to read:

6 **3-B. Exemptions for certain telephone utilities.** The
8 commission may adopt by rule standards and procedures for
10 granting exemptions to telephone utilities or specified groups of
12 telephone utilities from the approval requirement of subsection
14 3-A. Such an exemption must be accompanied by a finding that the
16 exemption is in the public interest and will not have a negative
18 impact on competitive markets for telephone services. The
20 commission may limit an exemption to a specific geographic area.
22 A telephone utility granted an exemption pursuant to a rule
24 adopted under this subsection remains subject to other applicable
26 provisions of this Title and commission rules. For good cause,
28 as defined by the commission by rule, the commission may revoke
any exemption granted pursuant to this subsection. A revocation
may be in whole or in part and may be specific to a single
telephone utility or a single telephone utility service. Rules
adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules
as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to
28 adopt rules to grant exemptions from the requirement that
telephone utilities obtain commission approval for special rate
contracts with their customers.