

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 1028

H.P. 713

House of Representatives, March 1, 2005

### **An Act To Prevent Fraudulent and Deceptive Sales Practices by Internet Service Providers**

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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 VAUGHAN of Durham.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: DUGAY of Cherryfield, FISCHER of Presque Isle.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §§1210-C and 1210-D** are enacted to read:

6 **§1210-C. Expiration of free trial Internet service**

8 An Internet service provider, as defined in Title 5, section  
10 200-B, subsection 1-A, that supplies free trial Internet service  
12 shall notify the recipient prior to the expiration of the free  
14 service. The Internet service provider shall inform the  
16 recipient of the cost to continue service and may not assess  
18 charges until the recipient has accepted the terms of the new  
20 agreement.

22 **§1210-D. Internet service providers; cancellation of service**

24 An Internet service provider shall prorate final charges for  
26 a cancelled account according to the number of days in the  
28 billing period that service was actually provided before  
30 cancellation.

32 **SUMMARY**

This bill requires Internet service providers to give recipients of free trial Internet services notice prior to cancellation of free service and requires that providers must not charge recipients to continue service unless the cost to continue service has been disclosed and the recipient has accepted the terms of the new agreement. The bill also provides that charges upon cancelling an Internet service provider account must be assessed on a prorated basis.