

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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7/11/05
P. 018

L.D. 1259

DATE: 5.2.05

(Filing No. S-116)

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
122ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 439, L.D. 1259, Bill, "An Act To Sustain Maine Schools and Libraries"

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, because the Maine schools and libraries program administered by the Public Utilities Commission is currently confronting cash flow issues as a result of delays in federal funding for certain program elements, it is important to immediately provide authority to the commission to increase the assessment used to fund the program; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Further amend the bill in section 1 in paragraph A in the first line (page 1, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "0.6%" and inserting in its place the following: '0.7%'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 439, L.D. 1259

2 Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and
inserting in its place the following:

4 'Sec. 2. Report; authority to report out legislation. By January 30,
2006, the Public Utilities Commission shall provide a report to
6 the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy detailing
the status of available revenues and expenditures, including
8 federal funds, for the schools and libraries program supported by
the telecommunications education access fund established under
10 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 7104-B. The
Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy may report out
12 legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 122nd
Legislature concerning the subject of the Public Utilities
14 Commission report.

16 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment does the following:

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1. It increases the amount collected for the education
access technology fund established under the Maine Revised
26 Statutes, Title 35-A, section 7104-B from the 0.6% proposed in
the bill to 0.7% of intrastate retail charges;

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2. It removes the section of the bill providing for a
temporary increase in the telecommunications education access
fund assessment to 0.8% of intrastate retail charges;

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3. It adds a provision to the bill requiring the Public
Utilities Commission to provide a report to the Joint Standing
Committee on Utilities and Energy detailing the status of
36 available revenues and expenditures, including federal funds, for
the schools and libraries program supported by the
38 telecommunications education access fund;

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4. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities
and Energy to report out legislation to the Second Regular
Session of the 122nd Legislature concerning the subject of the
Public Utilities Commission report; and

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5. It adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to
the bill.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1259

LR 0327(02)

An Act To Sustain Maine Schools and Libraries

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment **A**

Committee: Utilities and Energy

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	2005-06	2006-07	Projections 2007-08	Projections 2008-09
Revenue				
Other Funds	\$1,160,000	\$1,160,000	\$1,160,000	\$1,160,000

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill increases the intrastate retail charge for telecommunications services from .5% to .7%. The increase will provide additional funding for the Telecommunications Education Access Fund of approximately \$1,160,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 2005-06.