

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1153

H.P. 846

House of Representatives, March 7, 2007

An Act To Allow Affordable Housing Discretionary Water and Sewer Fee Waivers

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CHASE of Wells.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BARSTOW of Gorham, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls,
RAND of Portland, ROSEN of Bucksport, TIBBETTS of Columbia, Senator: BENOIT of
Sagadahoc.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6105, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

3 **3-A. Rates; affordable housing.** Notwithstanding subsection 3 and section 703, the
4 governing body may establish and file a lower rate, toll or charge than the regular rates,
5 tolls and charges or waive the full amount of the rate, toll or charge for water service used
6 by or available to residents of affordable housing as defined in Title 30-A, section 5246.
7 Any reduction in or waiver of the rate, toll or charge pursuant this subsection must be
8 credited directly to the customer account associated with the affordable housing.

9 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1202-A** is enacted to read:

10 **§1202-A. Rates; affordable housing**

11 Notwithstanding section 1202, a sanitary district may establish a lower rate, toll, rent
12 or entrance charge than the regular rates, tolls, rents and entrance charges or waive the
13 full amount of the rate, toll, rent or entrance charge for sewer or drainage service used by
14 or available to residents of affordable housing as defined in Title 30-A, section 5246.
15 Any reduction in or waiver of the rate, toll, rent or entrance charge pursuant this section
16 must be credited directly to the customer account associated with the affordable housing.

17 **Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §1252, sub-§12** is enacted to read:

18 **12. Rates; affordable housing.** A sewer district may establish a lower rate than the
19 regular rate or waive the full amount of the rate for sewer or drainage service used by or
20 available to residents of affordable housing as defined in Title 30-A, section 5246. Any
21 reduction in or waiver of the rate pursuant this subsection must be credited directly to the
22 customer account associated with the affordable housing.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 Current law requires that rates charged by water, sewer and sanitary districts are
25 uniform within the territory of the district whenever the cost of service is uniform. This
26 bill provides an exception to the uniform rate requirement for affordable housing.
27 Specifically, the bill grants water, sewer and sanitary districts the authority to reduce or
28 waive the rates charged to affordable housing properties within the districts. The bill also
29 requires that the reduction in the rates is credited directly to the associated customer
30 account.