

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 766
(Filing No. H-65)

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 525, L.D. 766, Bill, "An Act To Promote Telecommunications Availability for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing"

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 5 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "intrastate usage-sensitive" and inserting the following: 'usage-sensitive intrastate'

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 in the 2nd line from the end (page 1, line 18 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "a telephone company" and inserting the following: 'a telephone company an intrastate toll provider'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 (page 1, lines 29 to 32 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §7302, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Deaf person" has the same meaning as in section 8702, subsection 3.

B. "Hard-of-hearing person" has the same meaning as in section 8702, subsection 3-A.

C. "Speech-impaired person" has the same meaning as in section 8702, subsection 5.

D. "Telecommunications device for the deaf" has the same meaning as in section 8702, subsection 6.'

Amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 5 in the 4th line (page 1, line 38 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "Education Labor, Office" and inserting the following: 'Education, Office Labor, Bureau'

Amend the bill in section 5 in §8701 in the first paragraph in the 3rd line (page 2, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "hearing impaired" and inserting the following: 'hearing-impaired hard-of-hearing'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 6 (page 2, lines 9 to 11 in L.D.) and
2 inserting the following:

3 **'Sec. 6. 35-A MRSA §8702, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

4 **3-A. Hard-of-hearing person.** "Hard-of-hearing person" means a person who has a
5 hearing loss in the range of mild to profound, who uses residual hearing and who prefers
6 to speak and listen with the help of amplification, implantable devices, assistive
7 technology and speechreading.

8 **Sec. 7. 35-A MRSA §8702, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 1989, c. 851, §7, is
9 repealed.'

10 Amend the bill by inserting after section 7 the following:

11 **'Sec. 8. 35-A MRSA §8702, sub-§5-A** is enacted to read:

12 **5-A. Speechreading.** "Speechreading" means a technique of understanding speech
13 by visually interpreting the movements of the lips, face and tongue with information
14 provided by the context, language and any residual hearing.'

15 Amend the bill in section 8 in subsection 6 in the 3rd line (page 2, line 21 in L.D.) by
16 striking out the following: "hearing impaired or speech impaired people" and inserting
17 the following: "~~hearing impaired~~ hard-of-hearing or speech impaired ~~people~~ persons'

18 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
19 section number to read consecutively.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This amendment makes several technical changes to the bill to clarify and provide
22 consistency in the language. It substitutes the term "hard-of-hearing person," which is
23 added in the bill, for "hearing impaired person" in several places, and it provides a more
24 detailed definition of "hard-of-hearing person" than is included in the bill.