

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 585, L.D. 850, Bill, "An Act To Ensure Local Broadband Coverage"

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

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

Whereas, by April 30, 2009, the ConnectME Authority will initiate the 3rd round of its grant program to expand access to broadband service in the State and, particularly, to expand access in areas where there is presently no broadband or high-speed Internet service available; and

Whereas, more than \$750,000 is expected to be available for the 3rd round of grants; and

Whereas, access to broadband service is a necessity for residents and businesses in the State; and

Whereas, certain changes in law must be put into effect as soon as possible in order to affect the ConnectME Authority's implementation of the 3rd round of the grant 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,'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §9204, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2005, c. 665, §3, is amended to read:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT





# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 850

LR 1281(02)

## An Act To Ensure Local Broadband Coverage

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"  
Committee: Utilities and Energy  
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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### Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to ConnectME to define and modify criteria related to the grants awarded under the program and provide other administrative duties can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.