

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R # 3

Date: 3/8/10

(Filing No. H-697)

**UTILITIES AND ENERGY**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
124TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1116, L.D. 1578, Bill, "An Act To Provide for Equitable Sharing by Service Providers of the Costs of the Public Utilities Commission and the Office of the Public Advocate"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, To Direct the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate To Account for Certain Resource Expenditures'**

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

**'Sec. 1. Accounting by Public Utilities Commission and Public Advocate of allocation of certain resources. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate shall, beginning no later than July 1, 2010, separately account for and track resources devoted to matters related to providers of communications services that are not subject to assessments pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 116. The Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate shall establish reasonable and practical categories of such providers and shall account for resources devoted to each identified category. To the extent practical, the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate shall identify in the accounting each individual provider to which resources were devoted, the type of proceeding or action to which the resources were devoted and the role of the provider in that proceeding or action. For purposes of this resolve, "providers of communications services" includes, but is not limited to, a wireline voice, satellite, data, fixed wireless data or video retail service provider; a facilities-based provider of wireless voice or data retail service; or any other provider of communications services; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate shall report their accounting under section 1 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by January 15, 2012 together with any recommendations regarding the practicality of subjecting any providers of communications services to assessments pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 116.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

H. 1116

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that directs the Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate, beginning no later than July 1, 2010, to separately account for and track resources devoted to matters related to providers of communications services that are not subject to assessments pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 116. The Public Utilities Commission and the Public Advocate are required to report the accounting to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by January 15, 2012 together with any recommendations regarding the practicality of subjecting any communications service providers to assessments pursuant to Title 35-A, section 116.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See attached)



# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1578

LR 2412(02)

**An Act To Provide for Equitable Sharing by Service Providers of the Costs of the Public Utilities Commission and the Office of the Public Advocate**

**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

Any additional costs incurred by the Public Utilities Commission and the Office of Public Advocate for separate accounting of resources devoted to matters related to providers of communications services which are not subject to assessments under 35 M.R.S.A. §116, including reporting to the Joint Standing Committee regarding the separate accounting; can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.