

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2010

Legislative Document

No. 1660

S.P. 625

In Senate, December 21, 2009

**An Act To Reallocate Funds for a Position at the Public Utilities
Commission**

(EMERGENCY)

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HOBBS of York.

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

3 Whereas, Public Law 2009, chapter 372 transferred 17 positions from the
4 Conservation Administration Fund program at the Public Utilities Commission to the
5 Efficiency Maine Trust; and

6 Whereas, one of those positions, a Staff Accountant position, was funded 80% by
7 the Conservation Administration Fund program and 20% by the Emergency Services
8 Communication Bureau program at the Public Utilities Commission; and

9 Whereas, the Staff Accountant position will be transferred to the Efficiency Maine
10 Trust July 1, 2010; and

11 Whereas, the Public Utilities Commission has ongoing accounting responsibilities
12 pursuant to Public Law 2009, chapter 372, including gathering data related to and
13 determining the assessment on transmission and distribution utilities to collect funds for
14 conservation programs and administrative costs, collecting the assessments from utilities
15 and remitting the assessments to the Efficiency Maine Trust; and

16 Whereas, the Emergency Services Communication Bureau work remains at the
17 Public Utilities Commission and has increased; and

18 Whereas, the Public Utilities Commission has increased accounting responsibilities
19 associated with increased activities in its dig safe program and as a result of the receipt of
20 federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds related to regulatory
21 activity on electricity and smart-grid issues; and

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

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

27 **Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
28 allocations are made.

29 **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

30 **Emergency Services Communication Bureau 0994**

31 Initiative: Continues one Staff Accountant position transferred in Public Law 2009,
32 chapter 372 from the Conservation Administration Fund program at the Public Utilities
33 Commission to the Efficiency Maine Trust by transferring the position to the Public
34 Utilities - Administrative Division program, reallocating a portion of the costs and
35 increasing the allocation from 20% to 40% in the Emergency Services Communication
36 Bureau program.

37

1	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2009-10	2010-11
2	Personal Services	\$0	\$26,672
3	All Other	\$0	\$20
4			
5	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$26,692

6 **Public Utilities - Administrative Division 0184**

7 Initiative: Continues one Staff Accountant position transferred in Public Law 2009,
8 chapter 372 from the Conservation Administration Fund program at the Public Utilities
9 Commission to the Efficiency Maine Trust by transferring the position to the Public
10 Utilities - Administrative Division program, reallocating a portion of the costs and
11 increasing the allocation from 20% to 40% in the Emergency Services Communication
12 Bureau program.

13			
14	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2009-10	2010-11
15	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.000
16	Personal Services	\$0	\$40,018
17	All Other	\$0	\$1,153
18			
19	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$41,171

20			
21	PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION		
22	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2009-10	2010-11
23			
24	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$67,863
25			
26	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$67,863

27 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
28 legislation takes effect when approved.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill reallocates funds for a Staff Accountant position at the Public Utilities
31 Commission. Funds for this position are allocated from the Public Utilities -
32 Administrative Division program and the Emergency Services Communication Bureau
33 program.