

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 48

H.P. 41

House of Representatives, January 11, 2011

An Act To Require Oral Disclosure of the Cost of Certain Public Telephone Calls

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative FLOOD of Winthrop.
Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and
Representatives: COTTA of China, KNAPP of Gorham, PILON of Saco, WEAVER of York,
Senator: McCORMICK of Kennebec.

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §7305, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 651, §2, is amended to read:

1. Notice of charges. Any person who owns, controls, operates or manages a public telephone shall provide oral notice of the cost of a telephone call to a person making a collect, operator-assisted or credit card call before the call is placed and a written notice within the immediate vicinity of the telephone and plainly visible to any person using the telephone. The written notice must:

A. Identify the name, address and telephone number of the person who owns, controls, operates or manages the public telephone to whom complaints regarding that telephone may be directed;

B. Inform the person using the public telephone how to contact a local telephone company operator or "911" service operator in case of emergency;

C. Specify the rates or charges for use of the public telephone, including charges for local calls, intrastate calls, "800" or other toll-free calls, uncompleted calls, incoming calls, collect calls, 3rd-party calls and credit card calls; and

D. Contain the identity of the long-distance company that serves the public telephone, explain how the user of the public telephone may, at no charge, obtain information on the rates or charges imposed by the long-distance company, and any additional charges imposed on the user for long distance services.

SUMMARY

This bill requires a person who owns, controls, operates or manages a public telephone to provide oral notice of the cost of a collect, operator-assisted or credit card call to the person making that telephone call before the call is placed.