

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 6/1/23

(Filing No S-154)

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “**A**” to S P 434, L D 1065, “An Act to Improve the Telecommunications Relay Services Council by Reducing Its Membership and Allowing for the Hiring of an Executive Director”

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 in the first line (page 1, line 4 in L D) by striking out the following “10” and inserting the following ‘11 voting’

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 by inserting after paragraph C the following ‘C-1 One member from the Maine Connectivity Authority, as established in Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 33-H, appointed by the president of the authority.’

Amend the bill in section 1 in subsection 1 by inserting after paragraph E the following ‘The executive director shall serve as a nonvoting member of the council in accordance with subsection 3-A, paragraph E.’

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following

‘**Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §8704, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read

3-A. Executive director. The council shall, within its allowable annual budget established by subsection 6, hire a part-time executive director to assist in carrying out the powers and duties of the council. The executive director shall

A Assist in the preparation and submission of the budget of the council required pursuant to subsection 6,

B Prepare and submit the report required pursuant to subsection 8,

C Assist the council with contract negotiations,

D Assist the council with processing invoices,

E Serve as a nonvoting member of the council, and

F Perform all other duties necessary to assist the council in performing its powers and duties pursuant to subsection 5

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §8704, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2017, c 408, §6, is further amended to read

4. ~~Appointment~~ Election of chair and vice-chair. Every 2 years, the members shall elect a chair and a vice-chair from among the membership. The vice-chair shall serve as acting chair in the absence of the chair. The council shall meet at the call of the chair but no fewer than 4 times during the calendar year. The chair may delegate, as necessary, duties to members of the council, either individually or through the formation of subcommittees, to carry out the functions of the council.

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

SUMMARY

This amendment changes the membership of the Telecommunications Relay Services Council to include a member of the Maine Connectivity Authority, appointed by the president of the authority. It directs the council to hire a part-time executive director and establishes the duties of the executive director. It clarifies that the council consists of 11 voting members and that the executive director serves on the council as a nonvoting member.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1065

LR 462(02)

**An Act to Improve the Telecommunications Relay Services Council by Reducing Its Membership and
Allowing for the Hiring of an Executive Director**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-154)
Committee: Energy, Utilities and Technology
Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

Fiscal Note

Current biennium cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill directs the Telecommunications Relay Services Council (TRSC) to hire a part-time executive director. The TRSC is funded by the Maine Universal Service Fund administered by the Public Utilities Commission. Existing budgeted resources will provide sufficient funding for expenditures related to the position compensation.