

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

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STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

131ST LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 972, L.D. 2254, "An Act to Clarify Permissible Election and Lobbying Expenditures by Consumer-owned Water Utilities"

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

'An Act to Clarify Permissible Election and Lobbying Expenditures by Consumer-owned Utilities and the Casco Bay Island Transit District'

Amend the bill in the emergency preamble in the 5th paragraph in the 2nd line (page 1, line 14 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "water"

Amend the bill in the emergency preamble in the 6th paragraph in the 2nd line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "water"

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

'Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §302, sub-§2, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 286, §1, is amended to read:

A. Contributions or gifts to political candidates, political parties, political or legislative committees or any committee or organization working to influence referendum petitions or elections. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits a consumer-owned water utility, a consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility or the Casco Bay Island Transit District, created by Private and Special Law 1981, chapter 22, from undertaking expenditures related to notifying the public of or conducting trustee elections or local referendum elections directly related to or legally required for the operation of a consumer-owned water utility, consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility or the Casco Bay Island Transit District;

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §302, sub-§2, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 286, §1, is amended to read:

C. Expenditures for lobbying or grassroots lobbying. This paragraph does not apply to a consumer-owned water utility, a consumer-owned transmission and distribution

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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1 utility or the Casco Bay Island Transit District, created by Private and Special Law
2 1981, chapter 22; and'

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

5 **SUMMARY**

6 This amendment changes the title and amends the emergency preamble. It provides
7 that a consumer-owned water utility, a consumer-owned transmission and distribution
8 utility and the Casco Bay Island Transit District may include or incorporate in operating
9 expenses to be recovered in rates expenditures for lobbying or grassroots lobbying and
10 expenditures related to notifying the public of or conducting trustee elections and local
11 referendum elections directly related to or legally required for the operation of the utility
12 or transit district.