

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 76

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*House of Representatives, Feb. 1, 1917.*

*Referred to Committee on Telegraphs and Telephones and  
five hundred copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

*Presented by Mr. Meserve of Naples.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

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AN ACT to provide for better telephone service.

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

Section 1. No public telephone company, or corporation  
2 doing business wholly or in part within his state, shall main-  
3 tain more than an eight party line, or have more than eight  
4 instruments on a single line for rural or farmer's lines, and  
5 not more than a five party line, for business telephones.

Sect. 2. All public telephone companies or corporations,  
2 doing business wholly, or in part within this state, shall at  
3 least once in each and every year, publish and distribute to

4 each of its patrons, a directory giving each subscriber's  
5 name, residence and the number of his call or phone, such  
6 directory shall be not less than six by nine inches in size,  
7 with such rules, regulations and general information, as is  
8 desired, upon the front and back fly leaves, and to restrict  
9 all advertisements to cover pages, and additional fly leaves,  
10 and to one inch of space at top and bottom of all other  
11 papers, all advertising in the section reserved for the alpha-  
12 betical list of subscribers to be enclosed within a ruled bor-  
13 der, which shall appear on all pages in such section.

Sect. 3. All public telephone companies or corporations,  
2 doing business wholly or in part within this state, neglect-  
3 ing or refusing to comply with the two foregoing sections,  
4 on or before July first, nineteen hundred seventeen, shall  
5 forfeit to the state, ten dollars for each and every day of  
6 such neglect or refusal, and it shall be the duty of the attor-  
7 ney general, on written complaint of three or more sub-  
8 scribers of any aforesaid company, to proceed at once to  
9 collect such fine by an action for debt.

Sect. 4. All aforesaid telephone companies shall file a  
2 schedule of rates and tolls of said line on or before July  
3 first, nineteen hundred seventeen, with the Public Utilities  
4 Commission, and they shall not be changed until after hear-  
5 ing properly advertised and held before said Public Utilities  
6 Commission.