

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

NEW DRAFT.

---

---

SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

HOUSE

NO. 622

---

---

*House of Representatives, March 20, 1917.*

*Printed under joint rules.*

*W. R. ROIX, Clerk.*

---

---

STATE OF MAINE

---

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

---

AN ACT to Amend Section Thirty-Four of Chapter Fifty-Five  
of the Revised Statutes, Relating to Public Utilities and Free  
Transportation on same.

---

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

Section thirty-four of chapter fifty-five of the revised stat-  
utes of nineteen hundred and sixteen is hereby amended by  
inserting after the word "apparatus" in the twelfth line  
thereof, the words: 'call men of fire departments wearing  
badges, while going to or returning from fires, chiefs, cap-  
tains, sergeants, lieutenants and inspectors of police depart-  
ments in plain clothes and wearing badges,' so that the same  
as amended, shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 34. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation knowingly to solicit, accept or receive any rebate, discount or discrimination in respect to any service rendered, or to be rendered by any public utility, or for any service in connection therewith whereby any such service shall in any manner, or by any device whatsoever, be rendered free or at a rate less than named in the schedules in force as provided herein or whereby any service or advantage is received other than is herein specified; provided that this chapter shall not prohibit such free or reduced rates by public utilities as is defined and provided for in the acts of Congress entitled, “An Act to Regulate Commerce” and acts amendatory thereof, nor free or reduced transportation to the officers of leased lines or to police officers or firemen in uniform or of municipal fire apparatus, call men of fire departments wearing badges while going to or returning from fires, chiefs, captains, sergeants, lieutenants and inspectors of police departments, in plain clothes and wearing badges, editors and regular reporters of newspapers, nor free transportation under the provision of section fifty-one of chapter fifty-six; nor shall it be construed to prohibit any public utility from granting service at free or reduced rates for charitable or benevolent purposes, provided the same be approved by the commission; nor shall it be unlawful for any public utility to make special rates to its employees or in cases of emergency service, nor shall the furnishing by any public utility of any product or service at the rates and upon terms and conditions

28 provided for in any contract in existence January first, nine-  
29 teen hundred thirteen be construed as constituting a dis-  
30 crimination or undue or unreasonable preference, or advant-  
31 age within the meaning specified; provided, however, that  
32 when any such contract or contracts are or become termin-  
33 able by notice of such utility the commission shall have  
34 power in its discretion to direct by order that such contract  
35 or contracts shall be terminated by such utility as and when  
36 directed by such order; and provided, further, that it shall be  
37 lawful for any public utility to make a contract for a definite  
38 term subject to the approval of the commission, for its  
39 product or service, but such published rates shall not be  
40 changed during the term of the contract without the con-  
41 sent of the commission. Any person, firm or corporation  
42 violating the provisions of this section shall be punished by a  
43 fine of not more than one thousand dollars for each  
44 offense.'