

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 440**

H. P. 877

House of Representatives, February 7, 1945.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Poulin of Rumford.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT Repealing the Maine Civilian Defense Corps.**

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

**Sec. 1. P. L., 1941, c. 305, § 2, repealed.** Section 2 of chapter 305 of the public laws of 1941 is hereby repealed.

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 40, § 39, amended.** Section 39 of chapter 40 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**‘Sec. 39. Unlawful to receive or solicit rebates; exception; penalty.** 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 the provisions of 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 shall it be construed to prohibit any public utility from granting service at free or reduced rates for charitable or benevolent purposes, or for national ~~or civilian~~ defense purposes, nor to prohibit any public utility from supplying water and service free or at reduced or special rates to any person, firm, or corporation for fire protection purposes through or by means of any apparatus or appliances furnished, installed, or maintained by such person, firm, or corporation, 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 case of emergency service, nor shall the furnishing by any public utility of any product or service at the rates and upon terms and conditions provided for in any contract in existence January 1, 1913 be construed as constituting a discrimination or undue or unreasonable preference, or advantage within the meaning specified; provided, however, that when any such contract or contracts are or become terminable by notice of such utility the commission shall have power in its discretion to direct by order that such contract or contracts shall be terminated by such utility as and when directed by such order; and provided further, that it shall be lawful for any public utility to make a contract for a definite term subject to the approval of the commission, for its product or service, but such published rates shall not be changed during the term of the contract without the consent of the commission.

Any person, firm, or corporation violating any of the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 for each offense.'