

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
Public Utilities

BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

Prepared by:

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Office of Legislative Assistants
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UTILITIES
111th Legislature, First Regular Session (1983)

<u>LD</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
51	AN ACT RELATING TO THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF NATURAL GAS UTILITIES	Joyce	ENACT. PL 37 EMER (OTPA)

SUMMARY: Amends 35 MRSA §132, enacted by 1981 PL c. 600 which allowed an estimated fuel adjustment to be included as part of the base rate for natural gas utilities. Then, as gas is actually purchased, the rate must be adjusted to reflect changes in the price of gas compared to the estimate. A similar concept was previously enacted for electric utilities in 35 MRSA §131.

This bill makes the concept of §132 applicable only to customers who are "firm customers (who) receive uninterrupted service on a year-round basis."

Committee Amendment "A" makes it clear that PUC may establish a separate rate, including cost of gas, to non-firm customers of natural gas. Also adds an emergency clause to allow action before April, when nonfirm gas generally becomes available.

103	AN ACT TO EXPAND THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF VAN BUREN LIGHT AND POWER DISTRICT	Violette J. Martin	ENACT. P&S 15 (OTPA)
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SUMMARY: Expands the Van Buren Light and Power District to include certain areas that are now served by the district but that are within the territory of Maine Public Service. Modifies the boundary description slightly to conform to existing service patterns.

109	AN ACT TO CHANGE THE NUMBER OF TRUSTEES ON THE CARIBOU UTILITIES DISTRICT BOARD FROM 3 MEMBERS TO 5 MEMBERS	Matthews, K. McBreairty	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: The purpose of the bill is stated in the title.