

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

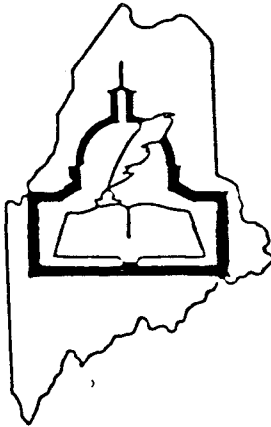
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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
UTILITIES  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 334 AN ACT TO SIMPLIFY AND CLARIFY THE PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY OVER  
ND: 1499 UTILITY ISSUANCE OF STOCKS, BONDS AND NOTES

BALDACCI  
RICHARD  
PARADIS E  
WEYMOUTH

OTP-ND SPO574 HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

CH #

SUMMARY: Existing law requires that public utilities obtain PUC approval for issuance of stocks, bonds and notes payable over 12 months or longer. The bill streamlines the language and explicitly allows the PUC to consider the reasonableness of the purpose of the securities and of the financing cost. It also deletes an exclusion on securities issued to finance out of State projects.

See new draft LD 1499

LD: 335 AN ACT TO PROTECT TENANTS WHEN LANDLORDS  
FAIL TO PAY UTILITY BILLS

ANDREWS  
RICHARD  
HANDY  
BALDACCI

ND:

OTP-AM HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 87

S-30 CA H S

SUMMARY: The bill addresses the situation where a landlord is responsible for utility bills and fails to pay them. The tenant may not be disconnected, but service may be transferred to the tenants' name. Then, a lien is placed on the property to help the utility secure payment from the landlord.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-30) makes it clear that the landlord is responsible for payment for utility service when the landlord applies for and is granted that service. PUC's disconnect regulations, ch.81, require a utility to offer the tenant an opportunity to assume responsibility for future service before the service may be disconnected due to nonpayment by the landlord. The amendment also includes a technical provision to make it clear that the lien provision does apply despite the prohibition of 35 MRSA §3225.