

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

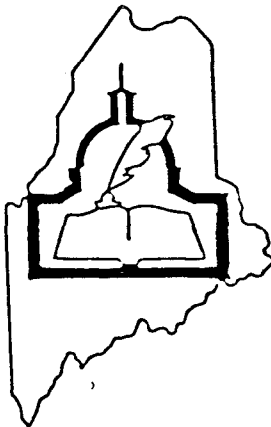
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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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: 1257  
EMERGENCY  
ND:

AN ACT TO PRESERVE AFFORDABLE FLAT RATE  
LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

MATTHEWS Z  
CONNOLLY  
HANDY

LV-WD

HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

CH #

SUMMARY: The bill requires flat rate service with unlimited local calling as the standard service. Optional local measured service can be offered at lower cost if that does not prevent the flat rates from being reasonably affordable. (If less than 2/3 of the customers choose flat rate it is presumed that LMS is being offered too cheaply). PUC may establish a lifeline local measured service option for low income persons. Non-traffic sensitive costs would be allocated to local, long distance and other services in proportion to their benefits from the use of common facilities. There is a rebuttable presumption that toll services account for at least 50% of the consumer costs of the local loop. Access charges are charged to long distance carriers -- not end users. PUC may impose a surcharge on businesses which bypass the local loop, with the proceeds used to further universal service. PUC must impose the surcharge if bypass becomes a threat to reasonably affordable flat rates. PUC is given jurisdiction over all calls that originate and terminate in the State even if they travel out of State along the way. (See also LD 1011.)

This is one of nine bills withdrawn in favor of committee and PUC study. (See LD1011).

LD: 1270 AN ACT TO PREVENT UTILITIES FROM PASSING ON  
TO RATEPAYERS THE INVESTMENT LOSSES FROM  
ND: CANCELED POWER PLANTS

MATTHEWS Z

LV-WD

HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

CH #

SUMMARY: The bill prohibits inclusion of Construction Work in Progress (CWIP) in utility rates.  
It also prohibits inclusion of the costs of canceled plants in utility rates, unless PUC has given prior approval to construction or unless the utility will be unable to provide service or attract capital on reasonable terms. In no case would a rate of return be allowed on the investments in a canceled plant. If construction on a plant has ceased for 5 years, PUC may determine that it is abandoned.