MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

UTILITIES

BILL SUMMARY



JUNE 1987

PREPARED BY:

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE BILL SUMMARIES JUNE 1987

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "COMMITTEE" if it is a committee amendment.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Please let us know if you would prefer a different format or additional information and if the summaries are helpful.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP Ought to Pass
OTP-ND Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP Ought Not to Pass
LVWD Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP Indefinitely Postponed

LVWD

Sponsor: VOSE, Paradis E., Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: This bill would authorize a system development charge for consumer-owned electric utilities. The title of the bill is erroneous. Last year, such a charge was authorized for water utilities.

LD AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A UNIVERSAL TELEPHONE 461 SERVICE PROGRAM

LVWD

Sponsor: BAKER, Holt Committee Report: LVWD

<u>SUMMARY:</u> This bill establishes a credit for certain low-income telephone users in order to help them continue to have basic telephone service.

Eligibility is limited to households qualifying for any one of five programs: Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, Food Stamps, or Home Energy Assistance. The telephone companies would be reimbursed from the General fund.

The Federal Communications Commission will waive for eligible households a \$2 per month access charge for residential customers the state matches this amount. Thus, the implementation of this program will result in a total state-federal reduction of \$4 per month.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF CABLE TELEVISION LVWD 475 SERVICES TO ORGANIZATIONS

Sponsor: RACINE, Sheltra, Jacques, Dutremble Committee Report: LVWD

<u>SUMMARY:</u> This bill prohibits a cable television company from refusing to sell services to organizations or associations within its service areas.