

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND AND ELEVEN

S.P. 133 - L.D. 429

An Act To Clarify the Role of the Public Advocate

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§92**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 657, §1, is repealed.

**Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §1702, sub-§§9 and 10** are enacted to read:

**9. Other advocacy forums.** The Public Advocate, consistent with the priorities established in section 1702-A and the requirements of this chapter, may represent and promote the interests of the using and consuming public:

A. In appropriate proceedings of the Legislature; and

B. In regional or national forums, including but not limited to any proceeding of an independent system operator or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**10. Independent representation of the interests of the using and consuming public.** The Public Advocate, when taking a position on any matter in any proceeding or forum pursuant to the Public Advocate's authority under this chapter, shall exercise independent judgment to ensure the position:

A. Is consistent with the priorities established in section 1702-A and the requirements of this chapter; and

B. Promotes stabilization and lowering of prices paid by those members of the using and consuming public whose interests the Public Advocate is representing.

**Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §1712**, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 657, §2, is repealed.

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In House of Representatives, ..... 2011

Read twice and passed to be enacted.

..... Speaker

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In Senate, ..... 2011

Read twice and passed to be enacted.

..... President

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Approved ..... 2011

..... Governor