
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF MAINE

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Senator Mark Lawrence, Senate Chair
Representative Seth Berry, House Chair
Members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee
130th Maine Legislature
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: LD 511, An Act To Require Telephone Service Providers To Provide at No Cost to Customers Services Designed To Reduce the Number of So-called Robocalls and Automatically Dialed Telephone Calls

The Telecommunications Association of Maine (TAM) offers the following testimony **Neither For Nor Against** LD 511, An Act To Require Telephone Service Providers To Provide at No Cost to Customers Services Designed To Reduce the Number of So-called Robocalls and Automatically Dialed Telephone Calls.

This legislation, as introduced, would require companies that offer call blocking service to any of their customers to make that service available to all customers at no charge. With regard to this concept, TAM would simply note that under the federal program known as STIR/SHAKEN which is designed to combat Robocalling, providers are already prohibited from passing costs along to customers. Thus, TAM does not oppose this concept, it is just not clear if it is needed in State law.

TAM understands that there will be an amendment introduced by the sponsor to change the bill into one that would focus more on educating customers of their options regarding Robocalls and call blocking. Again, TAM does not oppose this concept but it is not clear how or when such education of the customers would occur. Would it be point of sale? Would there be a requirement to have the information on a website? Would there be a requirement for a bill stuffer? These are all questions that need to be resolved as part of this legislative process.

TAM thanks the committee for this opportunity to provide information on LD 511, An Act To Require Telephone Service Providers To Provide at No Cost to Customers Services Designed To Reduce the Number of So-called Robocalls and Automatically Dialed Telephone Calls.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Sanborn", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Benjamin M. Sanborn, Esq.
Telecommunications Association of Maine