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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES AND ENERGY

TO: Honorable Bill Diamond, Senate Chair
Honorable Emily Ann Cain, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Honorable Joseph C. Perry, Senate Chair
Honorable Thomas Watson, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

FROM: Barry J. Hobbs, Senate Chair
Jon Hinck, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

DATE: January 15, 2009

RE: LD 45, Part P – Telecommunications Personal Property Tax

The Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy (UTE) received and reviewed your request of January 13, 2009, for input on proposed changes to the telecommunications personal property tax contained in Part P of LD 45 and the two proposed amendments. In our discussion, it became clear that this is a very complicated issue that warrants careful consideration and analysis of the implications of the various proposals. In light of the very limited time available and the complexity of the issues involved, the UTE committee decided that it was not in a position at this time to comment on Part P of LD 45 or the proposed amendments.

The UTE committee is aware that additional changes to the telecommunications personal property tax are included in the Governor's Proposed 2010-2011 Biennial Budget, and the committee would welcome the opportunity to study the issue further and contribute its input regarding changes to the telecommunications personal property tax within the context of reviewing the upcoming biennial budget bill.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy