



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1603

S.P. 509

In Senate, April 18, 2019

**An Act To Improve Cell Phone Service in Underserved Areas by
Installing Wireless Base Stations at State-owned Facilities**

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant".

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham and
Senator: CARPENTER of Aroostook, Representatives: MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MARTIN of
Sinclair, MAXMIN of Nobleboro, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, RILEY of Jay.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §7509** is enacted to read:

3 **§7509. Wireless technology at state-owned facilities**

4 **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the
5 following terms have the following meanings.

6 A. "Cellular telephone service" means any mobile telecommunications service as
7 defined in section 102, subsection 9-A.

8 B. "Underserved area" has the same meaning as "unserved or underserved area" in
9 section 9202, subsection 5.

10 C. "Wireless base station" means a cellular communications device and related
11 antenna that is connected to broadband service to provide improved cellular
12 telephone service.

13 **2. Wireless base stations required at state-owned facilities.** The Department of
14 Administrative and Financial Services shall develop a plan in consultation with the
15 ConnectME Authority established in Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 33-F to install
16 wireless base stations at state-owned facilities to improve cellular telephone service in
17 underserved areas of the State. The department shall direct the relevant state agencies to
18 install and maintain wireless base stations at the facilities identified in the plan.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to develop
21 a plan in consultation with the ConnectME Authority to install wireless base stations at
22 state-owned facilities to improve cellular telephone service in underserved areas of the
23 State. It requires the department to direct the relevant state agencies to install and
24 maintain wireless base stations as identified in the plan.