

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES, AND ENERGY

BILL SUMMARY

BILL NO. H.3566

TITLE: An Act relative to surety bonds

SPONSOR: Representative Aaron L. Saunders

COMMITTEE: Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy

HEARING DATE: May 6, 2025

PRIOR HISTORY: *New file*

CURRENT LAW:

Chapter 166 of the General Laws pertains to telephone and telegraph companies, as well as lines for the transmission of electricity.

Chapter 25A of said Chapter 166 pertains to utility pole attachments, as regulated by the Department of Public Utilities.

SUMMARY:

This legislation specifies that utilities cannot compel municipal light plant (MLP) licensees (that have been established for the sole purpose of providing telecommunications services) to incur costs as a condition of utility pole attachment, including the production of surety bonds, when such costs are in excess of rates for attachment as determined by the DPU.