

# CONSUMER BULLETIN #98-2

Produced By: Maine Public Utilities Commission, Consumer Assistance Division March 1998

---

242 State Street, State House Station #18, Augusta, Maine 04333

Contact: Derek D. Davidson @ (207) 287-1596

Email: derek.davidson@state.me.us

## **Consumers can choose between seven digit and eleven digit dialing for instate toll calls.**

In-state toll options for customers are increasing: rates are falling and many customers can “presubscribe” to different long distance carriers (i.e. use a carrier other than the local carrier for in-state long distance calls without dialing the carrier’s access code first). Customers can decide whether they want to dial in-state long distance calls using their presubscribed carrier just by dialing seven digits, or whether they want to dial 1+207 before the seven digit number for every in-state long distance call. Most customers prefer the convenience of seven digit dialing; some however, prefer to have the “reminder” of the “1+207” to alert them that the call is a toll call.

Customers who use an Internet provider to connect to the worldwide web (such as AOL) may benefit from “1+207” dialing. Internet providers typically assign phone numbers (both primary and secondary) to a customer’s computer for access to the Internet. The numbers selected connect the customer to the provider’s closest location, which may be a toll call. With 1+207 dialing, the customer would know if the access number their computer is dialing is long distance or local. Other customers who may benefit from “1+207” dialing are customers with children and customers who have guests that often use the phone.

The choice is yours. If you do nothing, you will continue to be able to complete your in-state long distance calls using just seven digits. If you prefer the “1+207” reminder, contact your local phone company.

If you have any questions regarding these dialing options, please call the Maine Public Utilities Commission’s Consumer Assistance Hotline at (207) 287-1597 or (800) 452-4699.

You can also reach the Maine PUC at:            TTY Relay (800) 437-1220  
                                                                                 E-mail: maine.puc@state.me.us  
                                                                                 Fax: (207) 287-1039

View the Maine Public Utilities Home page at: <http://www.state.me.us/mpuc/homepage.htm>

#####