

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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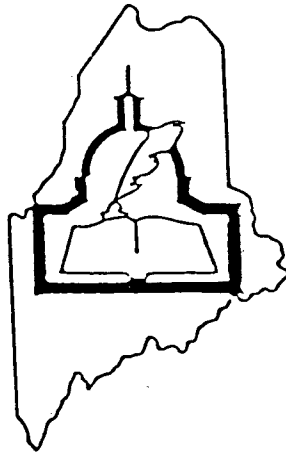
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
JUNE 1984

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 111th Legislature. The summaries are arranged alphabetically, and indexed separately by committee.

STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC UTILITIES
BILL SUMMARY



MAY, 1984

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<u>LD</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	(Committee Report) <u>DISPOSITION</u>
1976	AN ACT TO PROMOTE COMPETITION IN THE ELECTRIC POWER INDUS- TRY	ComteStudy	LV/WD

SUMMARY: The bill provides \$50,000 for an expert study of alternative methods of providing for planning, construction and operation of new electric generation and transmission facilities, and energy conservation including a public agency which could compete with private utilities in those activities. It would also permit the PUC to purchase and resell electric energy generated inside the State.

1986	AN ACT TO EXEMPT SMALL TELE- PHONE COMPANIES FROM RATE REGULATION BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION	Vose Weymouth	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: The bill attempts to remove telephone companies with 15,000 or fewer customers from rate regulation by the Public Utilities Commission. Those telephone companies would be required to hold a public hearing on rate increases. If 20% of the customers of the company petitioned, the PUC would review the rate increase.

2010	AN ACT RELATING TO ISSUANCE OF BONDS BY SANITARY DISTRICTS	Higgins,L. Vose	OTP-ND See LD 2290
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SUMMARY: The bill revises procedures for the approval of the issuance of sanitary district bonds in order to enable those districts to obtain lower interest rates through national bond ratings.

2025	AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TELECOM- MUNICATIONS POLICY FOR THE STATE OF MAINE	ComteStudy	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: The bill is a product of the Telecommunications Study done by this Committee. Because of the essential nature of telecommunications, it establishes for the first time a State Telecommunications Policy. This policy will serve as a guidance for state agencies in responding to the changes and opportunities in this industry. It has the following elements: (1) universal telephone service; (2) installation of electronic switching; (3) lifeline telephone service; (4) minimizing cost; (5) statewide long distance rate averaging; (6) moderate interstate access charges; (7) state regulation of local service; (8) no federal pre-emption re Cable TV; (9) local franchising of Cable TV, with state guidelines and; (10) PUC regulation of 2-way cable and of pole attachments. Finally, this Committee would review the policy biennially.

The bill was withdrawn in view of the establishment of a Task Force on Telecommunications Policy by Executive Order (See LD 2097).