

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>
2048	AN ACT REGARDING FRANCHISING AND REGULATION OF CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS	ComteStudy	OTP-ND See LD 2423

SUMMARY: The bill is a product of the Telecommunications Study done by this Committee. It is a clear state policy that authorizes municipalities to award Cable TV franchises, including exclusive franchises, and protects the municipality from antitrust suits. It provides for the municipality to enact ordinances for the procedures in awarding franchises and for franchise terms and conditions. On appeal, PUC can review municipal actions for conformity with the statute. PUC will also provide technical assistance on request, and propose technical system standards to the next Legislature. PUC is given limited regulatory authority: 2-way cable, and pole attachments. The bill continues present law requiring 6 months notice on abandonment of service, limiting franchises to 15 years, and requiring conformity with FCC regulations.

2053	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO INSTITUTE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES	Carpenter Hayden Andrews	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: This bill requires the PUC to establish efficiency standards for electric generating stations which will permit (require?) the efficiency of a facility to be taken into consideration when determining the reasonable cost of fuel for purposes of the fuel adjustment clause.

2135	AN ACT TO REQUIRE DOWNSTREAM PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF RELEASE OF WATER IMPOUNDMENTS	Paradis, E. Kany Vose	OTP-ND See ND 2390
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SUMMARY: The bill authorizes the Commissioner of DEP to require posting of signs or other measures to protect human life and property from water released from impoundments. It was introduced partly in response to a fatal accident on the Kennebec River in 1983.

2219	AN ACT RELATING TO ITEMIZED TELEPHONE BILLS	Michael	LV/WD
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SUMMARY: The telephone company does not itemize calls for certain discount long distance services. The bill would require itemization.

2242	AN ACT CREATING THE WISCASSET WATER DISTRICT		ND OF LD 1765
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SUMMARY: This was an incorrect new draft. LD 2326 is the correct new draft.