

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

UTILITIES

BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

PREPARED BY:

Haven Whiteside, Policy Analyst

OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS STATE HOUSE, STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333 (207) 289-1670



HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR GILBERT W. BREWER DAVID C. ELLIOTT MARTHA E. FREEMAN JERI B. GAUTSCHI CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

STATE OF MAINE HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS ROOM 101/107 STATE HOUSE STATION 13 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333 TEL.: (207) 289-1670

JULIE S. JONES JOHN B. KNOX EDWARD POTTER **MARGARET J. REINSCH** LARS H. RYDELL JOHN R. SELSER ANDREA L. COLNES, RES. ASST.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

> JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE BILL SUMMARIES MAY 1986

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the Second Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CAMDEN AND 1887 ROCKLAND WATER COMPANY

Sponsor: ALLEN, Chalmers, Whitcomb, Melendy Committee Report: LVWD

<u>SUMMARY:</u> The present charter authorizes the District to take water from Hobbs' and Fish's Ponds in Hope. Although the District has not done so, they have applied for the necessary permits. The bill removes the District authority to take water from thos ponds.

LD AN ACT TO ASSIST CONSUMERS IN OBTAINING REDRESS ND LD 2259 1915 FOR VIOLATION OF THEIR RIGHTS BY REGULATED UTILITIES

Sponsor: BALDACCI, Chalmers, Simpson, Swazey, M. Committee Report: OTP-ND

SUMMARY: Present law requires PUC to promulgate rules regarding termination of utility services for residential and non-residential customers, and requires utilities to follow them. If not, the PUC may bring suit in Administrative Court, which may impose a fine for "willful or reckless" violation.

This bill authorizes the customer to bring suit for willful or reckless violation and to recover the greater of \$100 or actual damages, as well as reasonable attorneys fees up to \$750.

LD AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE PRICE OF PUBLIC LVWD 1916 UTILITY PROPERTY

Sponsor: ANDREWS, Vose, McGowan, Baldacci Committee Report: LVWD

<u>SUMMARY:</u> Existing law requires authorization of the Public Utilities Commission for the sale of utility property. The bill prohibits the commission from authorizing a sale of the property to a utility serving the same territory if the sale price exceeds the net book value of the property, in order to protect utility customers from paying rates which include depreciation of property on which the same customers have already paid for depreciation.