

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

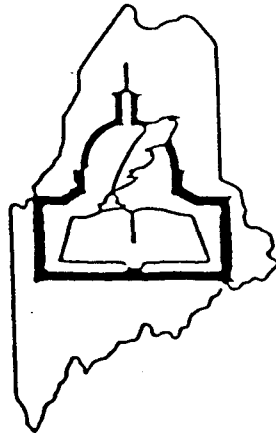
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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
UTILITIES
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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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
ONTF	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD
2104

AN ACT TO PERMIT INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC
CONSUMERS TO PURCHASE ENERGY FROM AND THROUGH
TRANSMISSION LINES CARRYING ENERGY FROM CANADA
THROUGH THE STATE

ND LD 2327

Sponsor: MCGOWAN, Vose, Baldacci, Willey
Committee Report: OTP-ND NT

SUMMARY: Under present law construction of a major transmission line (100 kilo volts or more) requires a certificate of public convenience and necessity. The bill requires additional findings for a new transmission line from Canada: (1) that a need exists; (2) Maine utilities have a reasonable chance to participate in construction, ownership and purchase of energy or capacity, and (3) Maine industrial customers have a reasonable chance to purchase energy or capacity. PUC must ensure that direct industrial purchases are not likely to result in loss by the customers of the electric utility most recently serving that industrial customer.

Under present law small power producers and cogenerators may use their power themselves or sell it to their local utility. The bill requires utilities to provide transmission ("wheeling") of that power to industrial customers within the state subject to reasonable conditions. Those conditions must ensure that the wheeling will not place an undue burden on the utility. PUC cannot agree. The bill makes a similar provision for wheeling between affiliated industrial enterprises.

LD AN ACT TO LIMIT THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE TO ACTIVE
2127 RATE CASES

LVWD

Sponsor: VIOLETTE, Murphy, T., Vose, Paradis, E.
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: Present law provides a list of duties of the Public Advocate relating to utility: rates, service, abandonment, major construction, mergers, contracts with affiliates, securities, and customer complaints.

The bill restricts the duties of the Public Advocate to intervening in rate cases. It also prohibits the Public Advocate from threatening any public utility and limits the actions of that office to the specific issues before the PUC. (The Public Advocate recently has been involved in a controversial proposal for CMP to take over Maine Public Service.)