

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
UTILITIES

JUNE 1990

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**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee
Bill Summaries**

June 1990

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. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP
OTP-ND
OTP-ND-NT
OTP-A
ONTP
LVWD
INDEF PP

Ought to Pass
Ought to Pass in New Draft
Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
Ought to Pass as Amended
Ought Not to Pass
Leave to Withdraw
Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD 1840

An Act to Amend the Charter of the Castine Water District

**P & S 98
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
GOULD R R
HUTCHINS

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
S-474

SUMMARY

This bill, as amended (S-474), amends the charter of the Castine Water District to authorize the appointment of an alternate trustee and to increase the authorized indebtedness from \$250,000 to \$2,000,000.

LD 1851

An Act to Amend the Berwick Sewer District Charter

P & S 103

SPONSOR(S)
MURPHY

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill amends the Berwick Sewer District to bring it into compliance with United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations concerning penalties for industrial user violations of pretreatment standards.

LD 1865

An Act to Amend the Charter of the Hallowell Water District

**P & S 97
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)
FARNSWORTH
BUSTIN

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill amends the territorial boundaries of the Hallowell Water District to include the town of Chelsea.

LD 1936

An Act Authorizing the Public Advocate to Initiate Proceedings on Behalf of Utility Consumers

PUBLIC 660

SPONSOR(S)
PARADIS E
BOST
CLARK H
WEYMOUTH

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-762

SUMMARY

This bill, as amended (H-762), authorizes the Public Advocate to petition to initiate proceedings on behalf of utility customers and ratepayers instead of merely responding to utility proceedings that have already been initiated by another party, typically a utility seeking a rate increase. These proceedings may be initiated at the Public Utilities Commission, the federal agencies regulating utilities and the courts. This will enable the Public Advocate to seek to reduce rates, or secure a refund for customer groups who have been overcharged at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or the Federal Communications Commission, even if no proceeding is already underway.