

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
115TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
UTILITIES

AUGUST 1991

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**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
AND
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

PUBLIC XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
P&S XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
RESOLVE XXX	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
CON RES XXX	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
EMERGENCY	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
CARRIED OVER	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
ONTP	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
LVWD	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
INDEF PP	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
DIED BETWEEN BODIES	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
VETO SUSTAINED	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
UNSIGNED	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were 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.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

fire departments and emergency response agencies. As amended, the bill requires an excavator to provide notice to operators of underground facilities who are not mandatory or voluntary members of the damage prevention system. As amended, the bill requires underground facility operators to join in a study of the costs of establishing a Maine, stand-alone system. As amended, the bill has an effective date of January 1, 1993

**LD 505 An Act to Encourage Electric Utility Efficiency and
Economical Electric Rates**

PUBLIC 413

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
VOSE CARPENTER AIKMAN	OTP-AM	S-203

SUMMARY

The bill sought to give broad powers to the Public Utilities Commission to establish rate adjustment mechanisms. As amended (S-203) the bill allows the commission to establish any reasonable rate-adjustment mechanism to promote efficiency in electric utility operations. The commission is directed to consider the ratepayer impact of any rate-adjustment mechanism considered.

LD 658 An Act to Clarify the Lien Rights of Water Utilities

PUBLIC 136

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ADAMS CLEVELAND CONLEY MORRISON	OTP-AM	H-140

SUMMARY

This bill gives water utilities the same lien rights as sanitary districts against multi-unit residential rental property with regard to overdue accounts. This lien right allows the water utility, by following a certain series of procedures, to create a mortgage on the served property which has priority over all other liens except those for taxes. The committee amendment (H-140) clarifies that as between the sanitary district lien and the water utility lien, the sanitary district lien has priority.

**LD 686 An Act to Limit Compensation of Utility Executives to
Comparable Salaries of State Officials**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
OLIVER HANDY HOLT ADAMS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill would have required that the Public Utilities Commission limit the amount of utility executive compensation recoverable in the rates.