

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES

JULY 1993

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</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.

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

4693NRG

**LD 678**

**An Act to Make Additional Allocations to the Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1993**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
VOSE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to reallocate funds to the Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 116, subsection 5. This bill proposed to reallocate \$317,543 in unexpended balances brought forward from fiscal year 1991-92 for consulting services necessary for the processing of cases before the Public Utilities Commission. The bill was voted ONTP because the PUC determined the funds were not in fact required.

**LD 703**

**An Act to Amend the Civil Violation and Civil Forfeiture Laws for Natural Gas and Natural Gas Pipeline Utilities**

PUBLIC 113

**SPONSOR(S)**  
ADAMS

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-136

**SUMMARY**

This bill modifies Maine law to conform to federal law. The amendments to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 4516 relating to gas pipeline utilities and Title 35-A, section 4705 relating to gas utilities, accomplished in this bill reflect the maximum penalty amounts for safety, transportation and rule violations contained in federal law.

The committee amendment (H-136) updates the penalties to reflect the very recent changes contained in the Federal Pipeline Safety Act of 1992.

**LD 724**

**An Act to Amend the Mars Hill Utility District**

P & S 17  
EMERGENCY

**SPONSOR(S)**  
KNEELAND

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-137  
H-273 KNEELAND

**SUMMARY**

This bill expands the territorial limits of the Mars Hill Utility District and proposed to expand the tax exempt status of the district.

The committee amendment (H-137) clarifies that the State grants no water rights to Canadian water sources to the Mars Hill Water District.

This amendment also clarifies the property tax exemption for the district so that it is consistent with state laws.

The House amendment (H-273) adds a mandate preamble to the bill.