

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
UTILITIES

JULY 1993

Staff:

Jon P. Clark, Legislative Analyst

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670*

MEMBERS:

**Sen. Harry Vose
Sen. John J. Cleveland
Sen. David L. Carpenter*

**Rep. Herbert E. Clark
Rep. Maria Glen Holt
Rep. Herbert C. Adams
Rep. Carol A. Kontos
Rep. David J. Cashman
Rep. Ralph L. Coffman
Rep. James O. Donnelly
Rep. Hugh A. Morrison
Rep. Rosalie H. Aikman
Rep. Joseph B. Taylor*

**Denotes Chair*

MARTHA E. FREEMAN, DIRECTOR
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR., PRINCIPAL ANALYST
JULIE S. JONES, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
DAVID C. ELLIOTT, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
MARION HYLAN BARR
JON CLARK
LISA COPENHAVER
DEBORAH C. FRIEDMAN
MICHAEL D. HIGGINS
JILL IPPOLITI



JOHN B. KNOX
ROY W. LENARDSON
PATRICK NORTON
JANE ORBETON
MARGARET J. REINSCH
PAUL J. SAUCIER
JOHN G. KELLEY, RESEARCHER
DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER
CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL: (207) 287-1670
FAX (207) 287-1275

**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&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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 & 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

the authority. The board is required to follow the Maine Administrative Procedure Act in assessing any fines.

The House amendment (H-337) adds a mandate preamble to the bill.

LD 818 An Act to Modify the Fuel Clause for Electric Utilities

VETO SUSTAINED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT		AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CLARK	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-472
	ONTP	MIN	

SUMMARY

The current fuel adjustment clause law mandates a fuel adjustment clause for major electric utilities and requires the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules for the recovery of fuel costs for small electric utilities. This bill proposed to preserve the current law for small electric utilities, but to give the commission discretion to adopt, by rule or order, an adjustment mechanism for fuel or purchased power costs to the State's major electric utilities. This modification would have allowed the commission discretion in providing for the treatment of fuel and purchased power costs in the rates of the State's major electric utilities. The transition language would have provided for the amortization of past overcollection and undercollection of prudently incurred fuel or purchased power costs.

LD 830 An Act Amending the Charter of the Brewer Water District

P & S 44
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
RUHLIN	OTP-AM	H-250
		H-555 CLARK
		S-177 VOSE

SUMMARY

The Brewer Water District is required, pursuant to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, to ensure a continued supply of potable water from Hatcase Pond. This bill prohibits bathing, and washing articles of clothing in Hatcase Pond; prohibits boating and fishing within 2,000 feet of the intake valve of Brewer Water District; and authorizes the district to adopt bylaws consistent with the general laws of this State to prevent pollution of the water of Hatcase Pond. The bill proposed to prohibit swimming in the pond. This bill also proposed to exempt Brewer Water District property from property tax regardless of its location.

The committee amendment (H-250) strikes the tax exemption portion of the bill, preserving the current tax exempt status of the district.

The House amendment (H-555) makes a technical change.

The Senate amendment (S-177) removes the restriction that prohibits all swimming in Hatcase Pond. Under the amendment, swimming is only banned within 3,000 feet from the intake of the Brewer Water District. The amendment also clarifies that the Brewer Water District may not adopt bylaws that are more strict than the 3,000-foot swimming limitation, but allows the Brewer Water District to prescribe penalties for violations of this limitation.