

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**MAY 1994**

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, 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*

*P&S XXX*

*RESOLVE XXX*

*CON RES XXX*

*EMERGENCY*

*ONTP*

*INDEF PP*

*FAILED ENACTMENT*

*FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT*

*FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*

*DIED BETWEEN BODIES*

*CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*

*VETO SUSTAINED*

*UNSIGNED*

*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*

*Chapter # of enacted Public Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law*

*Chapter # of enacted Resolve*

*Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses*

*Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days*

*Ought Not to Pass report accepted*

*Bill Indefinitely Postponed*

*Bill failed to get majority vote*

*Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote*

*Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote*

*House & Senate disagree; bill died*

*Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died*

*Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto*

*Not signed by Governor within 10 days*

*Action incomplete when session ended; bill died*

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

This bill proposed to exempt, subject to agreement through the collective bargaining process, employees of the Public Utilities Commission from mandatory furlough and shutdown days.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-390), which was the majority report of the committee, replaced the bill. The amendment proposed to exempt positions allocated to the Public Utilities Commission, other than commissioners, from the discretionary furlough and shutdown days. This exemption would have been subject to approval by the parties signatory to any agreement governing furlough days and shutdown days.

**LD 530      An Act to Allow Public Utilities to Develop Economic      ONTP**  
**Development Rates**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
MORRISON VOSE	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill was carried forward from the 1st Regular Session.

The bill proposed to require the Public Utilities Commission, upon petition, to adopt economic development rate tariffs for electric utilities. Any rate adopted would have been required to be designed to encourage economic development in the State such as job creation and the attraction of new businesses to the State. The commission would have been prohibited from establishing a rate which was lower than the utility's long-run marginal cost plus 1 cent per kilowatt hour.

**LD 661      An Act to Amend the Charter of the Passamaquoddy Water      ONTP**  
**District**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CLARK CLEVELAND	ONTP      MAJ OTP-AM      MIN	

**SUMMARY**

This bill was carried forward from the 1st Regular Session.

The current charter of the Passamaquoddy Water District makes all property of the district subject to property taxation. Legal issues were raised about this provision. The bill proposed to exempt all property of the district from taxation. The minority report of the committee (H-899) proposed to strike the tax provision from the charter, which would have resulted in the property of the district becoming tax exempt to the extent provided by Title 36, section 651.

**LD 1007      An Act to Enhance Competition in Electric Utilities      ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
CARPENTER	ONTP	

**SUMMARY**

This bill was carried forward from the 1st Regular Session.

The bill proposed to exempt from Public Utilities Commission review and approval electric utility transactions involving the acquisition or maintenance of an interest in any exempt wholesale generator

