

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&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

This bill was submitted in compliance with Public Law 1991, chapter 844, section 8, which requires the Secretary of State to submit legislation repealing all advisory boards and commissions listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, sections 12004-I and 12004-J as well as other advisory boards and commissions with similar functions.

Pursuant to that law, the boards and commissions were grouped by the subject areas within the jurisdiction of each joint standing committee and each special select committee. This bill proposed to repeal the boards identified within the jurisdiction of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities.

LD 1119 An Act to Deregulate Consumer-owned Electric Utilities CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PARADIS J CLARK		

SUMMARY

This bill proposes to allow consumer-owned electric utilities with elected boards to choose to regulate themselves and to be relieved of payment of the regulatory assessment.

LD 1135 An Act to Protect Electric Ratepayers from Unnecessary Rate Increases ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LUTHER ADAMS	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to prohibit an electric utility from accruing electric rate adjustment mechanism ("ERAM") revenues on its books of account until such time as the revenues are actually allowed and reflected in rates.

LD 1158 An Act Concerning the Installation of Cable and Other Utility Lines ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
RUHLIN	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to allow municipal licensing authorities to require that the installation of wires on utility poles result in sufficient space on the poles for cable and other utility lines.

LD 1239 An Act to Amend the Charter of the East Pittston Water District ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
FARNSWORTH	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to amend the charter of the East Pittston Water District by making the property of the district exempt from all taxation in the Town of Pittston.

LD 1248 An Act to Require Provision of Information to Consumers ONTP
by the Public Utilities Commission

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LEMKE	ONTP MAJ	
	OTP-AM MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to require the Public Utilities Commission to provide to customers of a public utility information stating the utility's profits and a summary of its rates, tolls and charges.

LD 1261 An Act to Amend the Charter of the Kingfield Water District ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WEBSTER	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to amend the charter of the Kingfield Water District to require approval by the inhabitants of the town before the trustees of the water district borrow money.

LD 1325 An Act to Decrease the Cost of Purchased Power to ONTP
Electric Utility Customers in the State

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LUTHER	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to require use of a discount rate for determining the value of power purchase contracts (for purposes of buy-outs or buy-downs) that is not higher than the cost of debt to finance the buy-out or buy-down of the contract. The bill also proposed to allow the cost of such buy-outs or buy-downs to be flowed through the fuel adjustment clause, in the same manner by which the cost of power purchased is recovered today.

LD 1326 An Act to Require that All Interest on Escrowed Assessments CARRIED OVER
on Utilities Be Used for the Benefit of the Public Utilities
Commission and the Office of the Public Advocate

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CLEVELAND	OTP-AM	

SUMMARY

This bill proposes to require that after July 1, 1995, all interest on funds or investments from the Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund and the Public Advocate Regulatory Fund be credited to those funds.