

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES AND ENERGY

MAY 1998

*MEMBERS:*

*Sen. Richard J. Carey, Chair*

*Sen. John J. Cleveland*

*Sen. Philip E. Harriman*

*Rep. Kyle W. Jones, Chair*

*Rep. Carol A. Kontos*

*Rep. Ronald E. Usher*

*Rep. Gary O'Neal*

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*Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.*

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*Staff:*

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**May 1998**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

- CON RES XXX*..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
- CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE*.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
- DIED BETWEEN BODIES*.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
- DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
- DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
- EMERGENCY*.....Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
- FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
- FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE*.....Bill failed to get majority vote
- FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT*.....Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
- INDEF PP*.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
- ONTP*..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
- OTP ND*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
- OTP ND/NT*..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
- P&S XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
- PUBLIC XXX*..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
- RESOLVE XXX*..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
- UNSIGNED*.....Bill held by Governor
- VETO SUSTAINED*.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 30, 1998 and July 9, 1998 for the Second Special Session. Second Special Session laws include Public Laws beginning with Chapter 718, Private and Special Laws beginning with Chapter 82 and Resolves beginning with Chapter 117.

**LD 1906**

**An Act Clarifying the Public Service Corporation Exception**

**PUBLIC 576**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CAREY		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> S-450
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LD 1906 proposed to provide that the exception for public service corporations to the laws regarding licensing of electricians includes electrical installations made on facilities owned by a customer.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-450)** proposed that public service corporations are exempt from electrician licensing requirements when making installations used to connect the electric utility supply system to service entrance conductors, other than installations of mobile home service equipment.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1997, chapter 576 provides that public service corporations are exempt from electrician licensing requirements when making installations used to connect the electric utility supply system to service entrance conductors. The exemption does not apply to installations of mobile home service equipment.

**LD 1912**

**An Act to Amend the Charter of the Guilford-Sangerville Water District to Increase the Bond Authorization**

**P & S 61  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JONES SL		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-793
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LD 1912 proposed to increase the debt limit of the Guilford-Sangerville Water District from \$1,500,000 to \$1,700,000. It also proposed to allow the water district to increase its debt limit by referendum vote without further legislative authorization in the same manner as standard water districts are authorized to increase their debt limits.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-793)** proposed technical changes to the bill.

***Enacted law summary***

Private and Special Law 1997, chapter 61 increases the debt limit of the Guilford-Sangerville Water District from \$1,500,000 to \$1,700,000. It also allows the water district to increase its debt limit by referendum vote without further legislative authorization in the same manner as standard water districts are authorized to increase their debt limits. Chapter 61 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 5, 1998.