

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
121st Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Utilities and Energy*

July 2003

Members:

*Sen. Christopher G. L. Hall, Chair
Sen. Lynn Bromley
Sen. Edward M. Youngblood*

*Rep. Lawrence Bliss, Chair
Rep. Herbert Adams
Rep. Albion D. Goodwin
Rep. Peter L. Rines*

*Rep. Jacqueline A. Lundeen
Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.
Rep. Philip A. Cressey, Jr.
Rep. Kenneth C. Fletcher
Rep. Stanley A. Moody
Rep. Maitland E. Richardson*

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Maine State Legislature



Office Of Policy And Legal Analysis Office Of Fiscal And Program Review

121st Maine Legislature First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing and joint select committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. 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 considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name 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).

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:

<i>CARRIED OVER PURSUANT TO HP 1212</i>	<i>Bills carried over to the 2nd Regular Session</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i>	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i>	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted</i>
<i>OTP-ND</i>	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>P&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i>
<i>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 13, 2003.

David C. Elliott, Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

LD 655

An Act To Revise the Charter of the Brunswick Sewer District

P & S 19

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> GERZOFSKY EDMONDS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-180
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LD 655 proposed to extend the territory of the Brunswick Sewer District to include the growth area defined by the growth/rural area boundary on the Town of Brunswick zoning map and to provide that the territory of the district expands with the growth area as zoned by the town. The bill also proposed to amend the charter to include a provision already in state law requiring the trustees to acquire written assurance from the town council that any sewer extension is in conformity with the Town of Brunswick Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-180) proposed to clarify certain language of the bill and remove a provision redundant of requirements imposed under state law. It also proposed to add a referendum clause relating to that portion of the bill that expands the territory of the Brunswick Sewer District.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 19 extends the boundary limit of the Brunswick Sewer District to include the growth area defined by the growth/rural area boundary on the Town of Brunswick zoning map. It provides that the Town Council may expand the territory further to address threats to public health and safety. The law also amends the charter to make clear the trustees must comply with current law that requires the trustees to acquire written assurance from the town council that any sewer extension is in conformity with the Town of Brunswick Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance. That portion of the bill that expands the territory of the Brunswick Sewer District is subject to local referendum approval within the district.

LD 668

Resolve, Regarding the Reduction of Barriers to the Transmission of Electricity

RESOLVE 5

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HALL	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 668 proposed to direct the Public Utilities Commission to work with the government of the Province of New Brunswick, Canada on ways to reduce or eliminate transaction costs and barriers to the free flow of electricity between Maine and Atlantic Canada.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolves 2003, chapter 5 directs the Public Utilities Commission to work with the government of the Province of New Brunswick, Canada on ways to reduce or eliminate transaction costs and barriers to the free flow of electricity between Maine and Atlantic Canada.