

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES
AND TECHNOLOGY**

July 2013

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter number.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES.....House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE.....defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX.....chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is October 9, 2013. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

policies and plans to include the potential to incentivize useful thermal energy as a renewable energy source in its consideration of those bills. The bills that the committee carried over are: LD 646, An Act to Remove the 100-megawatt Limit on Renewable Sources of Energy, LD 1085, An Act to Establish the Renewable Energy Feed-in Tariff, LD 1252, An Act to Improve Maine's Economy and Energy Security with Solar and Wind Energy and LD 1278, An Act to Ensure Equitable Support for Long-term Energy Contracts.

LD 1517 **An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Decision-making Authority
Regarding Energy Infrastructure Corridors**

PUBLIC 360

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARVELL	OTP-AM	H-459

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the Interagency Review Panel.

1. It adds as members of the panel the Governor's senior economic advisor and the Director of the Governor's Office of Policy and Management within the Executive Department or the director's designee.
2. It eliminates one of the public members of the panel.
3. It requires that a decision by the panel regarding an energy infrastructure corridor proposal be approved by the Governor before the State may enter into a binding contract with respect to the proposal.
4. It specifies that payments for appraisal costs collected from potential developers of an energy infrastructure corridor must be deposited in the energy infrastructure benefits fund.

This bill also changes the date on which the section of law governing energy infrastructure corridors is scheduled to be repealed from July 30, 2015 to July 30, 2017.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-459)

The bill removes a public member from the Interagency Review Panel; this amendment restores that member. The bill proposes to add the Governor's senior economic advisor to the panel; this amendment replaces this member with the Public Advocate. The amendment also provides that appraisal costs collected from potential developers may be used not only for the costs of appraisal services but also to reimburse members of the review panel for expenses.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 360 makes the following changes to the laws governing the Interagency Review Panel.

1. It adds as members of the panel the Public Advocate and the Director of the Governor's Office of Policy and Management within the Executive Department or the director's designee.
2. It requires that a decision by the panel regarding an energy infrastructure corridor proposal be approved by the Governor before the State may enter into a binding contract with respect to the proposal.
3. It specifies that payments for appraisal costs collected from potential developers of an energy infrastructure corridor may be used not only for the costs of appraisal services but also to reimburse members of the review panel for expenses.

This bill also changes the date on which the section of law governing energy infrastructure corridors is scheduled to be repealed from July 30, 2015 to July 30, 2017.