

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
127<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

May 2016

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# STATE OF MAINE

127<sup>TH</sup> 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 Second Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> 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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

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 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 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature is July 29, 2016. 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*

disbursements based on an affected customer's proportion of the customer's retail purchase of electricity as measured in kilowatt-hours for the prior calendar year. This law defines "affected customer." Affected customers that elect to use the disbursement toward an efficiency measure approved by the Efficiency Maine Trust would receive \$1 of assistance from the trust for every \$3 that is applied toward the measure by the affected customer as long as the total of assistance from the trust and the disbursement allocated by the commission does not exceed 65% of the total cost of the measure. This law also specifies that other than the \$1 for every \$3 invested assistance, during the fiscal years in which the disbursements are allotted an affected customer is not eligible to receive financial or other assistance from the trust fund, except in relation to program opportunities noticed prior to July 1, 2016. This law requires that the commission include in the commission's annual report a description of its activities in relation to the disbursement process, a list of affected customers receiving disbursements and those affected customers who elect to use the disbursement toward efficiency measures and the results of the program.

This law requires that any revenue remaining after providing disbursements and accounting for other costs authorized be allocated in a proportional share to residential programs and commercial and industrial programs. This law adds that the remaining money be allocated to measures that also increase energy efficiency and that measures to reduce the cost of residential heating are available to low-income households. It also allows the trust to consider measures at commercial and industrial facilities that lower peak capacity demand when promoting electricity savings.

**LD 1482**

**An Act To Revise the Charter of the Rumford Water District**

**P & S 14**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PATRICK J	OTP-AM	S-347 S-349 WOODSOME D

This bill revises the charter of the Rumford Water District.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-347)**

This amendment clarifies that property rights, powers or authorities the Rumford Water District acquired through the acquisition of Union Construction Company, Virginia Spring Water Company, Rumford Falls Light and Water Company and the Mexico Water Company are not affected by the revised charter of the Rumford Water District unless those rights, powers or authorities are inconsistent with the revised charter of the Rumford Water District.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-349)**

This amendment updates the language regarding the board of trustees for the Rumford Water District by removing language that is no longer applicable because the district is already in existence and has an established board of trustees. It makes clear that trustees are to be residents of the district and are to serve staggered terms. It also changes the expiration of a trustee's term from the first Monday in April to the first Monday in August.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2015, chapter 14 revises the charter of the Rumford Water District to make it more consistent with the Standard Water District Enabling Act and to update provisions to be consistent with current district practices.