

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

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# STATE OF MAINE

128<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contain summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Special, Second Regular and Second Special Sessions of the 128<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 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature are: Monday, February 5, 2018; Wednesday, August 1, 2018; and Thursday, December 13, 2018, respectively. 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

group to evaluate options and prepare recommendations for certain issues related to the efficient and effective implementation of smart grid policy, including addressing costs and financial incentives of transmission and distribution utilities and the smart grid coordinator and describing roles for the Public Advocate, Efficiency Maine Trust and transmission and distribution utilities with regard to nonwires alternatives and other smart grid functions. It also prohibits the Public Utilities Commission from implementing any final decisions related to rate proposals received pursuant to the commission's order of December 15, 2017 in the Public Utilities Commission's Docket No. 2016-00049 from any transmission and distribution utility until 90 days after adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

**LD 1515**     **An Act To Reduce Electric Rates for Maine Businesses by Amending the Laws Governing Spending from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund**     **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WADSWORTH N	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

This bill establishes a ceiling on energy efficiency spending from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund; provides for transfers from the trust fund to Maine-based energy-intensive businesses, in addition to transfers to affected customers; requires that funds over a certain amount be distributed to ratepayers; and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adopt implementing rules. This bill also authorizes the trust, during fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19, to deviate from the allocation requirements set forth in the statutes and instead allocate those funds to the programs that the trust determines.

**LD 1610**     **An Act To Protect Privacy of Online Customer Personal Information**     **Died Between Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELLOWS S CASAS O	OTP-AM ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

This bill prohibits a provider of broadband Internet access service from using, disclosing, selling or permitting access to customer personal information unless the customer expressly consents to that use, disclosure, sale or access. The bill provides other exceptions under which a provider may use, disclose, sell or permit access to customer personal information. The bill prohibits a provider from refusing to serve a customer, charging a customer a penalty or offering a customer a discount if the customer does or does not consent to the use, disclosure, sale or access. The bill requires providers to take reasonable measures to protect customer personal information from unauthorized use, disclosure, sale or access. The provisions of the bill apply to providers operating within the State when providing broadband Internet access service to customers that are billed for service received in the State and are physically located in the State.

### Committee Amendment "A" (S-453)

This amendment is the majority report and it replaces the bill. It prohibits the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services from entering into a contract for the purchase of broadband Internet access service from any provider that engages in the inappropriate use, sale or disclosure of or access to customer personal information. It requires any provider that contracts with the State for broadband Internet access service to

***Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology***

adhere to the limitations regarding the inappropriate use, sale or disclosure of or access to customer personal information for the duration of the contract.

It prohibits the ConnectME Authority from providing any grant funding to a provider of broadband Internet access service that engages in the inappropriate use, sale or disclosure of or access to customer personal information. It requires that a provider that receives grant funding from the ConnectME Authority must adhere to the limitations regarding the inappropriate use, sale or disclosure of or access to customer personal information for five years from the date grant funding is received.

Lastly, it directs the Office of the Attorney General to submit a report by January 15, 2019, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and technology matters related to the State's ability to ensure that providers of broadband Internet access service are adhering to net neutrality principles.

**LD 1632     An Act To Establish the Manufacturing Jobs Energy Program**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DILL J STANLEY S	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

This bill establishes the manufacturing jobs energy program to encourage growth of forest products and wood manufacturing jobs tied to installed megawatt capacity from new renewable energy from combined heat and power, including biomass energy from manufacturing residues. The program is administered by the Public Utilities Commission.

**LD 1671     An Act To Create a Grant Program To Assist with Dispatch Center  
Consolidation**

**PUBLIC 428**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODSOME D BERRY S	ONTP OTP-AM	S-436 H-801    BERRY S

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. It was reported out of committee and subsequently died in non-concurrence during the Second Regular Session. In the Second Special Session it was recalled from the Legislative files.

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and the prepaid wireless E-9-1-1 surcharge, but limits the surcharges to no more than 45¢ per month per line or number for the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and 45¢ per retail transaction for the prepaid wireless E-9-1-1 surcharge, which is the same amount as in the current law.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-436)**

This amendment is the minority report of the committee and replaces the bill. It reduces, starting October 1, 2018, the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and the statewide prepaid wireless telecommunications service E-9-1-1 surcharge to 40¢. It also requires the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to use up to \$1,000,000 from the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and the statewide prepaid wireless telecommunications service E-9-1-1 surcharge to provide grants to support the consolidation of dispatch centers into existing public safety answering points. It requires the Emergency Services Communication Bureau to adopt routine technical rules to establish the application process and allowable uses for grants.