

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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

May 2026

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Public Law 2025, chapter 681 also changes the requirement for contract provisions governing negative pricing in contracts for energy resulting from competitive solicitations conducted by the commission by requiring the contract to include a provision that requires the reduction of payments under the contract by the absolute value of the applicable negative price multiplied by the energy produced and delivered under the contract.

LD 1730 An Act to Make Small Plug-in Solar Generation Devices Accessible for All Maine Residents to Address the Energy Affordability Crisis

Public Law 2025, chapter 644 excepts from certain requirements the installation and operation of one or more eligible plug-in photovoltaic systems and plug-in battery systems by retail electricity customers for offsetting on-site electricity consumption. The law establishes requirements for plug-in photovoltaic systems and plug-in battery systems to qualify for the exception, including safety standards and capacity limits, and prohibits the use of eligible systems for net energy billing. The law also establishes requirements for the retail customer's installation and removal of such systems on or in a structure the retail customer does not own.

LD 1850 Resolve, to Improve Interagency Coordination and Information Accessibility Regarding Renewable Energy Construction Projects

Resolve 2025, chapter 131 directs the Governor's Energy Office to coordinate with state agencies that permit, regulate or provide state assistance to renewable energy construction projects, including, but not limited to, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Labor, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Public Utilities Commission, to evaluate how to display and maintain data regarding renewable energy construction projects in an efficient, meaningful and publicly accessible manner for the purposes of identifying renewable energy trends in Maine, including through the development of a database. The evaluation must provide a method to make the data publicly available and, to the extent practicable, a method for obtaining information from renewable energy construction developers. The law establishes evaluation criteria that the office must use in conducting the evaluation and requires the office to submit a report on the evaluation to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 1, 2026. The committee may report out a bill based on the office's report.

Resolve 2025, chapter 131 was finally passed in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Resolve 2025, chapter 131 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

Resolve 2025, chapter 131 was subsequently amended by Public Law 2025, chapter 757 to update references to the former Governor's Energy Office to the Department of Energy Resources, pursuant to Public Law 2025, chapter 476, and to change the date by which the Department of Energy Resources must submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having

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jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters on the evaluation required by Resolve 2025, chapter 131.

LD 1936 An Act Regarding the Allocation of Net Energy Billing Costs and Long-term Contract Costs and Benefits

Public Law 2025, chapter 555 removes the requirement that the Public Utilities Commission allocate to each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility its pro rata share of certain costs and instead requires the commission, for post-restructuring stranded cost allocations and rate designs applicable on or after July 1, 2028, to allocate net energy billing costs and eligible costs and benefits associated with long-term contracts by aggregating similar classes of customers across investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities and ensuring that costs and benefits are distributed equitably. The law adds a cross-reference regarding beneficial electrification and amends the provision of law governing long-term contract costs to include costs associated with contracts entered into as a result of procurements by the Department of Energy Resources.

LD 1949 An Act Regarding Energy Fairness

Public Law 2025, chapter 588 requires the Public Utilities Commission, in executing its duties, powers and regulatory functions under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, while ensuring system reliability, to consider the impact on affordability for residential customers. Public Law 2025, chapter 588 also does the following.

1. It requires the commission to publish on its publicly accessible website data regarding credit and collection activities of a transmission and distribution utility with more than 50,000 customers that is submitted to the commission by the utility in accordance with commission rules. The commission must ensure that the data is provided in a clear and transparent manner.
2. It requires the commission to conduct a comprehensive review of each component of electric delivery rates. In conducting the review, the commission must consider, at a minimum, options that aim to contain customer costs in electric delivery rates, reduce transmission and distribution utility bill volatility and increase transmission and distribution utility bill transparency. By January 31, 2027, the commission must submit an interim report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters informing the committee of its work to date on the comprehensive review. The commission must submit a final report to the committee by December 15, 2027.
3. It requires the commission to develop an affordability metric to be used to assess the impact of electricity bills on the overall energy burden for residential customers of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility. By January 15, 2027, the commission must submit an interim report regarding the development of the affordability metric to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters. The commission must submit a final report to the committee by December 15, 2027.