

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT  
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

Prepared by:

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
JULY 1985

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature, covering the First Regular Session of the 112th Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number and indexed separately by committee.

LD: 881 AN ACT TO ADJUST THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN  
HOUSE DISTRICT 103 AND HOUSE DISTRICT 55

ROTONDI  
DEXTER  
VOSE

OTP HOUSE Enacted  
SENATE Enacted  
GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC  
CH # 116

SUMMARY:

This bill moves Highland Plantation from House District 103 to House District 55, and moves Concord Township from House District 55 to House District 103.

This change provides much greater convenience to the residents in these districts with respect to voting.

LD: 882 AN ACT TO ABOLISH THE OFFICE OF ENERGY  
RESOURCES

ARMSTRONG  
WEBSTER M  
JACKSON  
BAKER A

ONTP HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

LD 882 proposed to abolish the Office of Energy Resources. According to the sponsors, the work of the office has been accomplished, and the world glut of petroleum makes many of OER's functions unnecessary.

The bill had some technical problems and had to be redrafted - LD 1597. This new draft incurred net cost savings to the General Fund of \$1,114,000 and federal fund savings of \$909,200. In addition, the bill (LD 1597).

1. authorized the Bureau of Public Improvements to adopt energy performance standards for consideration of life cycle costs of public buildings. The standards are required to meet the minimum standards of Chapter 4 of the ASHRAE 90 STANDARDS;
2. abolished the Office of Energy Resources.
3. transferred administration of the Maine Energy Resources Development Fund to the State Development Office;
4. eliminated the requirement that the Director of the Office of Energy Resources review any energy conservation, generation, or distribution project to be funded with industrial development bonds;
5. repealed the Chapter on Energy Building Performance Standards;

6. transferred the administration of the rideshare program to the Department of Transportation
7. repealed the requirement that the Energy Office publish an informational insulation materials fact sheet;
8. transferred the responsibility of providing warranties for the sale and installation of solar energy equipment to the Department of Business Regulation;
9. transferred the responsibility of preparing a manual of installation of instruction for new factory built stoves, fireplaces, stoves, etc., to the Office of the State Fire Marshal;
10. repealed the training and certification program for installers of solar energy equipment;
11. repealed the voluntary certification program for energy auditors, and
12. transferred the responsibility for administering any fuel allocation programs or any federal conservation, production and energy extension service programs to the Bureau of Civil Emergency Preparedness.

Oponents to the bill cited:

- A. the need for retaining the expertise that the Office of Energy Resources has developed;
- B. that the current petroleum surplus is temporary and future energy crises lie ahead of us;
- C. that the Office of Energy Resources is very much involved in developing and promoting alternative energy production as a means of reducing energy costs within the State; and
- D. that considerable funding of the activities of the OER is provided by the federal government, and the state's investment incurs a substantial return from these activities.

LD: 906 AN ACT CONCERNING THE WORDING OF REFERENDUM QUESTIONS

CARRIER  
RACINE  
SWAZEY  
BROWN L

LV-WD HOUSE Accepted Committee Report  
SENATE Accepted Committee Report  
GOV

SUMMARY:

LD 906 proposed to require the referenda questions passed