MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1985

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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: 1336 EMERGENCY ND: AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FACILITIES FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

VOSE BALDACCI RICHARD NICHOLSON

OTP-AM

HOUSE Enacted SENATE Enacted GOV SIGNED

PUBLIC CH # 326

H-234 CA

H S

SUMMARY:

The bill authorizes a special assessment on utilities recoverable in rates of \$250,000 per year for two years. The money will be used for improvements in the PUC facilities. These include: adding 4,000 square feet which would be vacated by the carpentry shop, glass shop and Medical Examiner; exchange of about 2,000 square feet of ground floor space for first floor space with the Department of Public Safety; handicapped access; compliance with fire and building codes; ventilation; and adequate hearing space.

The committee amendment (H-234) allows the utilities to include the carrying costs as well as the assessment as an expense in their next rate case. It also deleted the

emergency preamble.

LD: 1451 EMERGENCY RESOLVE, ENCOURAGING STATE POLICY OF INDEPENDENCE FROM FOREIGN SOURCES OF ENERGY

BALDACCI

ND:

FOR ELECTRIC UTILITIES

HELD OVER

HOUSE Ref'd to Committee SENATE Ref'd to Committee GOU

CH #

SUMMARY:

The resolve supports the completion of the Seabrook I nuclear power plant, along with the cancelation of Seabrook II. The reasons are: avoidance of excessive dependence on foreign sources of energy, the need for added generating capacity in the 1990's, and the need to keep good faith with the other states that are partners. It is noted that the economics is uncertain, but that it is projected to cost roughly the same to complete Seabrook I as it would to build an alternative. In either case, the money already spent on Seabrook I will add to the cost of power directly or indirectly.

The bill was carried over because the PUC has made a decision on Seabrook II, and a partial decision on Seabrook I. This will allow time for further developments.