

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

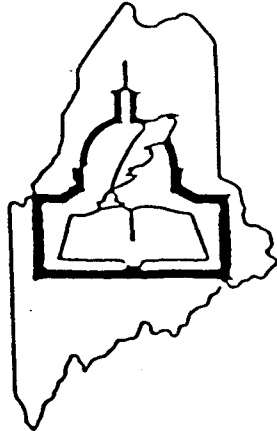
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STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
UTILITIES  
BILL SUMMARY



MAY 1986

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ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
MAY 1986

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

All Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor if it is a floor amendment or the designation "CA" if it is a committee amendment. If the amendment was adopted in the House, the letter H appears after the sponsor. If it was adopted in the Senate, the letter S appears.

Final action for each bill is listed to the right of the title. If final House action and Senate action differ, both are listed.

Key to Committee Reports and Floor Action:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-AM	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

LD AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STATEWIDE EMERGENCY  
1047 9-1-1 TELEPHONE SYSTEM

ND LD 2255

Sponsor: SWAZEY, Chonko, Weymouth, Baldacci  
Committee Report: OTP-ND-NT

SUMMARY: The bill was held over from the First Session. It requires the establishment, by December 31, 1986, of a statewide emergency services telephone network using standard access digits 9-1-1. All municipalities would set up individual (or multi-member) public safety answering points. These would dispatch emergency services directly or transfer or relay the call to the appropriate agency. Thus, to reach fire, police, ambulance, medical or other emergency services anywhere in the state, it would only be necessary to dial 9-1-1. The bill also requires the telephone companies to provide automatic display of the calling number and automatic identification of the callers address. Access for the physically disabled is also provided. The PUC would coordinate implementation.

LD RESOLVE, ENCOURAGING STATE POLICY OF  
1451 INDEPENDENCE FROM FOREIGN SOURCES OF ENERGY  
FOR ELECTRIC UTILITIES

LVWD

Sponsor: BALDACCI  
Committee Report: LVWD

SUMMARY: The resolve was held over from the First Regular Session. Its purpose is to provide policy guidance to the Public Utilities Commission in considering the plans of Maine utilities for providing future electric generation capacity, including consideration of the advisability of continued participation in construction of the Seabrook I nuclear power plant. State policy is to avoid excessive dependence on foreign sources of energy. Provided certain conditions are met, Maine participation in the completion of Seabrook I could have that effect and be in the best interest of the State.

LD AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE REFERENDUM PROVISION TO  
1671 REVISE AND MODERNIZE THE CHARTER OF THE YORK  
SEWER DISTRICT

P&SL 1985  
c. 85  
EMERGENCY

Sponsor: VOSE, Rolde  
Committee Report: OTP-AM

H-490 CA H S

SUMMARY: Last year, P&SL Ch 57 (LD 707) revised and updated the York Sewer District Charter, subject to local referendum. This bill clarifies that the referendum shall be held at the time of the next (i.e., 1986) annual town meeting of the Town of York.

The Committee amendment (H-490) makes it clear that the referendum is to occur at the town meeting itself.

LD AN ACT INCREASING THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE  
1672 DOVER AND FOXCROFT WATER DISTRICT

ND LD 2365

Sponsor: LAW  
Committee Report: OTP-ND NT

SUMMARY: The bill removes the \$250,000 bond limit and the \$50,000 limit on other borrowing from the charter. It replaces these with authority to borrow up to \$150,000 without district vote, and larger sums if required to meet a Federal or State mandate. Otherwise, larger sums require voter approval if a referendum is requested by 5% of the voters or 50 voters, whichever is greater. The bill also updates the language on debt and authorizes serial bonds. Finally, it increases from 3% to 5% of the outstanding indebtedness the annual contribution from rates to the sinking fund.

LD AN ACT TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR  
1674 MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENTS AND QUASI  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICTS

PL 1985  
c. 632

Sponsor: CLARK, N., Vose, Weymouth, Webster, C.  
Committee Report: OTP-AM

H-584 VOSE  
H-394 CA H S

SUMMARY: Present law (35 §3311) allows municipal and quasi-municipal water utilities to collect an extra 5% in rates to fund a contingency fund, excess revenues above that limit must be placed in a sinking fund or used to pay off debt. The bill repeals that law, but leaves §73 which also allows collection of the 5%. The bill amends §73 to permit but not require use of any excessive surplus to reduce future rates. (See LD 1723, Sections 5, 13, and 15 which are identical).