

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
113TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
UTILITIES

MAY 1988

MEMBERS

Sen. John M. Kerry *
Sen. Edgar E. Erwin
Sen. Charles W. Webster

Rep. Harry L. Vose *
Rep. Harlan Baker
Rep. Alexander Richard
Rep. William O'Gara
Rep. Maria Glen Holt
Rep. Robert J. Tardy
Rep. Norman E. Weymouth
Rep. Ralph M. Willey
Rep. Earl G. Nicholson
Rep. Mary C. Webster

* Denotes Chair

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**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST & SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
MAY 1988**

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. The summaries are arranged by LD number under each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. If final House and Senate action differ, both are listed. Committee Reports and Floor Action are indicated as follows::

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

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst assigned, as noted for each committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including Secretaries: Charlene Brann, Janet Jean, Earl Knox, Valarie Parlin; Research Assistant Hartley Palleschi. Finally, Secretary Lorette Knox, Legal Assistant Carolyn Chick, and Research Assistant Robert Dunn had special responsibilities in the preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD RESOLVE, to Establish the Commission to Study the Management INDEF PP
2497 of Water Resources in Maine (Reported Pursuant to Resolves
1987, Chapter 27)

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-574

SUMMARY

This resolve is the result of a study by the Public Utilities Commission of the allocation of water supply rights. That study was required by the First Regular Session of the 113th Legislature because of a number of isolated but similar problems that have been brought to the Legislature in recent years. It was intended to provide guidance on the scope of the issue of water allocation in Maine and the need for future legislation in the area.

As a result of the commission's study the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities reports this legislation to create a commission composed of Legislators, department experts and water consumers to conduct a full analysis of mechanisms of water management, to identify and accumulate existing data relating to water usage in Maine, to investigate the extent of the need for increased water management activities in Maine and to recommend a bureaucratic structure to meet any identified needs. The commission is chaired and staffed by the State Planning Office in recognition of its interdisciplinary nature. It is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 1990.

This resolve also establishes a position in the Maine Geological Survey to manage and coordinate the collection of water usage data and to participate in the National Water-Use Information Program. This program is anticipated to provide approximately \$15,000 in matching funds. Maine is the only state in the nation that does not currently participate in the federal program.

The Committee Amendment provides that the positions in the State Planning Office and the Maine Geological Survey are temporary contract positions pending the recommendations of the water management commission.

This bill was not funded on the Appropriations Table and indefinitely postponed. It was recalled from the files on "veto day" and again indefinitely postponed.

LD An Act to Revise the Charter of the Brunswick Sewer District P & S
2514 104
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT
OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
H-536

PRIEST
CLARK N
RYDELL
CLARK M

SUMMARY

This bill increases the debt limit of the Brunswick Sewer District from \$5,000,000 to \$20,000,000, clarifies its spending authority and gives the

district automatic lien authority parallel to that provided in Title 38, section 1208 for sanitary districts.

The Committee Amendment adds a referendum provision to the bill.

LD An Act Relating to the Provisions of the Charter of the P & S
2516 Veazie Sewer District 101
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MAYBURY OTP
BOST

SUMMARY
This bill clarifies the authority of the district to set rates and establishes an automatic lien provision parallel to that provided for sanitary district established under Title 38.

LD An Act to Compensate Municipalities for Land Used for LV/WD
2550 Transmission Lines

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MILLS LV/WD
ERWIN E
KANY
ERWIN P

SUMMARY
This bill authorizes a municipality to enact ordinances to require an electric utility to negotiate for the payment of a one-time reimbursement charge to the municipality for the construction, rebuilding or relocation of any generating facility or transmission line in that municipality.

LD An Act Establishing Maine Energy Policy PUBLIC
2553 671

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PRAY
WEYMOUTH
PERKINS
MARTIN J

SUMMARY
New Draft Majority Report of LD 729

This new draft reaffirms the existing policy of this State that utilities and the commission should engage in least cost planning taking into consideration such factors as cost, reliability and ability to be dispatched and all available alternatives including purchases of Canadian power. It recognizes the existing preference for conservation and load management followed by power purchased from small power producers and cogenerators.