MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE 114TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARY JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES

JULY 1989

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Sen. David L. Carpenter

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* Denotes Chair

Staff: Lars H. Rydell, Legislative Analyst

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES
AUGUST 1989

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 for 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 abbreviated 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 Research Assistant Barbara McGinn, and secretaries: Charlene Brann, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

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

LD 252

An Act to Increase the Debt Limit for the South Berwick Water District

P & S 11 **EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

FARNUM

OTP-AM

H-29

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes an increase in the debt limitation for the South Berwick Water District from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000.

The Committee amendment added an emergency preamble and clause and required a local referendum for the increase to be effective.

LD 263

An Act to Increase the Annual Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund Assessment, Establish a Consumer Assistance Specialist Position and Make Certain Other Changes

PUBLIC 58 **EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

BOST

OTP-AM

S-27

CLARK H

S-32 **BUSTIN**

PARADIS E STROUT B

SUMMARY

This bill increases the annual Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund assessment by \$314,000 to a total of \$2,700,000 beginning in fiscal year 1989-90 and by an additional \$214,000 to a total of \$2,914,000 beginning in fiscal year 1990-91. Together with the General Fund appropriation and the existing level of Public Utilities Commission Regulatory Fund assessments, these increases will provide the commission with sufficient funds to carry out its duties. The additional funds will be used to fund increases in personnel costs and general operating expenses. This bill also funds 2 new positions: a consumer assistance specialist for the consumer assistance division and a part-time position for the administrative division; and places the administrative secretary to the chairman in the unclassified service.

The committee amendment eliminated the provision making the administrative secretary to the chair of the commission an unclassified service position. It also reduced the amount needed for personal services by \$4000.

The Senate amendment to the committee amendment corrected an error in recording the elimination of \$4000 from the appropriation.