

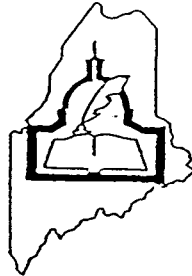
MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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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Rep. Alexander Richard
Rep. Maria Glen Holt
Rep. James R. Handy
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Rep. Herbert C. Adams
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Rep. Barbara E. Strout
Rep. Rosalie H. Aikman
Rep. John F. Marsh

* 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 860

An Act Establishing the Rights of Tenants when the Landlord Fails to Pay Utility Bills

PUBLIC 87

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

BOST
CLARK H
ADAMS
HOLT

OTP

SUMMARY

In cases where a landlord fails to pay for utility service in the name of the landlord, a tenant may pay for all or a portion of the service and deduct the amount paid from the rent due to the landlord.

If there is more than one tenant hooked up to the same meeter, language in the bill is flexible enough to allow the tenants to share the cost of the bill and for each to deduct their share from their rent or to have one tenant pay the whole bill.

LD 874

An Act to Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to Study the Implementation of Continuous Relay Services for Deaf, Hearing Impaired or Speech Impaired Persons

P & S 24
EMERGENCY

SPONSOR(S)

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

ANTHONY
ADAMS
PRAY
MARSH

OTP-AM MAJ
OTP-AM MIN

H-144 MAJ REP

SUMMARY

The bill as originally proposed would have required the Public Utilities Commission to require all telephone companies within its jurisdiction to establish or make provisions for the establishment of a system to provide continuous telephone relay services for deaf, hearing impaired or speech impaired persons who must rely on teletypewriter equipment for telephone communications. The Public Utilities Commission would have had to consult with appropriate agencies and organizations serving the deaf community concerning the needs of such a system and design and plan for the implementation of the system. The system would have to be implemented by July 1, 1992.

The committee amendment replaces the original bill and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to carry out a study and develop a legislative proposal for the implementation of a system to provide continuous telephone relay services for deaf, hearing impaired and speech impaired persons. It adds an emergency and allocates \$45,000 from a special assessment apportioned among all telephone companies to pay for the consultant services and commission staff time.