

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
115TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES

AUGUST 1991

**Staff:**

*Jon Clark, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 289-1670*

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STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107/135  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES  
AUGUST 1991**

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 volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries.

All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H - 584 or S - 222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various types of final action are abbreviated as follows:

<b>PUBLIC XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<b>P&amp;S XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<b>RESOLVE XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<b>CON RES XXX</b>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<b>CARRIED OVER</b>	<i>Bill carried over to 2nd Session</i>
<b>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</b>	<i>Bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<b>ONTP</b>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<b>LVWD</b>	<i>Leave to Withdraw report accepted</i>
<b>INDEF PP</b>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<b>VETO SUSTAINED</b>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<b>UNSIGNED</b>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<b>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</b>	<i>Action incomplete when 1st session ended</i>

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

If you have any suggestions or comments on these summaries, please let us know.

# Joint Standing Committee on Utilities

## **LD 8** An Act to Regulate Water Utilities

**PUBLIC 52  
EMERGENCY**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
KANY CARTER JOSEPH GWADOSKY	OTP-AM	S-31

### **SUMMARY**

The bill originally sought to require Public Utility Commission approval of rate increases by water districts of more than 50% of annual operating revenue, caused in part by the requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. As amended (S-31) the bill requires all water utilities to provide the commission, the utility's customers and the Department of Human Services with information concerning any proposed construction or modification of its water system caused by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act which will result in increases in rates of more than 50%. The information must include preliminary engineering estimates of both the utility's proposed water system construction or modification and the utility's next best alternative. The commission is given authority to investigate rate increases by a water utility of more than 50% upon petition by 15% of the utility's customer's or 500 customers, whichever is less.

## **LD 10** An Act to Mandate the Continuance of Current Policies on Winter Utility Disconnections

**ONTP**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
OLIVER MARTIN J ADAMS DUTREMBLE D	ONTP	

### **SUMMARY**

The bill would have required the director of consumer assistance at the Public Utilities Commission to approve or deny any disconnection of electric or gas utility service between November 1 and March 31. Any termination or disconnection from September 1, 1989 to the effective date of the Act (had it been enacted) would have had to have been re-served or reconnected at no cost to the customer if the customer was receiving certain benefits.

## **LD 119** An Act to Amend the Long Pond Water District Charter

**P & S 1  
EMERGENCY**

<b>SPONSOR(S)</b>	<b>COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>AMENDMENTS ADOPTED</b>
FARREN FOSTER	OTP-AM	H-24

### **SUMMARY**

This bill amends the charter of the Long Pond Water District by amending how the trustees will be appointed and successors' terms will be filled.