

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

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**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:

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

LD 1853 **An Act to Require Campuses of the University of Maine System to Obtain the Approval of Local Planning Boards, Sanitary and Sewer Districts and the Public Utilities Commission before Undertaking New Projects** **ONTP**

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
O'DEA ONTP

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to make the University of Maine System subject to local zoning and land use restrictions and procedural requirements. The bill further proposed to require the University to submit for approval or denial plans for new facilities to the trustees of potentially affected sewer or sanitary districts and to the Public Utilities Commission.

LD 1896 **Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission to Analyze the Minimization of Electric Rates as an Integral Factor in the State's Least Cost Energy Plan** **CARRIED OVER**

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
PRAY
CARPENTER
CLARK H
MORRISON

SUMMARY

This resolve proposes to direct the Public Utilities Commission to work with the State Planning Office, the Public Advocate, the State's electric utilities and customer's of electric utilities to study and propose mechanisms to emphasize electric rate minimization (as opposed to bill minimization) in the development of conservation and demand-side management programs within the framework of least cost planning.

LD 1897 **An Act to Increase the Borrowing Authority of the Jackman Water District** **P & S 30**

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ROTONDI OTP
WEBSTER

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes an increase in the debt limit of the Jackman Water District from \$800,000 to \$1,250,000. This increase is designed to permit the district to conform to the requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act for the filtration of surface water.

LD 1900 **An Act to Create the Plymouth Water District** **P & S 37
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) COMMITTEE REPORT AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TARDY OTP-AM H-530
EMERSON H-606 CLARK H

SUMMARY

This bill creates the Plymouth Water District. This bill is subject to approval by referendum in the

district. The committee amendment (H-530) exempts from review by the Public Utilities Commission funds received by the district from the Department of Environmental Protection, unless commission review is requested by the department. The district will probably receive money from the department to install a new water system because the existing area water supplies have been contaminated. The House amendment (H-606) corrects an error in a reference cited in the committee amendment.

LD 1901 An Act to Create the Morrill Village Water District

**P & S 29
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WHITCOMB BRAWN	OTP-AM	H-531

SUMMARY

This bill creates the Morrill Village Water District. This district is intended to be the successor to the Morrill Water Company. This charter grants the district the authority to purchase the plant, properties, franchises, rights and privileges owned by the Morrill Water Company. The charter also grants the district a special power of eminent domain to acquire these same assets, except cash assets and accounts receivable. This bill is subject to approval by referendum in the district. The committee amendment (H-531) amends the emergency preamble of the bill.

LD 1931 An Act to Amend the Berwick Sewer District Charter

P & S 38

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MURPHY CARPENTER		

SUMMARY

This bill, which was suggested to be referred to the Committee on Utilities but was acted upon without reference, amends the Berwick Sewer District Charter to provide that the Berwick Sewer District may be dissolved by a majority vote of the voters voting at a municipal election. This bill requires the Town of Berwick to assume the district's assets, liabilities and responsibilities in the event the district is dissolved.

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