

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
116TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES

JULY 1993

**Staff:**

*Jon P. Clark, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101, State House Station 13  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*

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DARLENE A. SHORES LYNCH, RESEARCHER  
CARRIE C. McFADDEN, RESEARCHER

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
ROOM 101/107/135  
STATE HOUSE STATION 13  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333  
TEL: (207) 287-1670  
FAX (207) 287-1275

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
BILL SUMMARIES**

**JULY 1993**

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.

The committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. 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:

<i>PUBLIC XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i>	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>CARRIED OVER</i>	<i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i>
<i>ONTP</i>	<i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i>
<i>ENACTMENT FAILED</i>	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i>	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i>	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i>	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i>	<i>Committee of Conference formed but unable to agree</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i>	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i>	<i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i>	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</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.

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

4693NRG

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to transfer the jurisdiction for settling pole attachment rate disputes from the Public Utilities Commission to the Federal Communications Commission.

**LD 1417      An Act Allowing the Town of Pittsfield to Obtain Water from the Town of Burnham** INDEF PP

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
CIANCHETTE                      OTP-AM

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to allow the Pittsfield Water District to take water from any lake or pond located in the Town of Burnham.

**LD 1419      An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Emergency 911** CARRIED OVER

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
VOSE

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to establish the Emergency Services Communication Agency within the Department of Public Safety to implement and manage the statewide E-9-1-1 system. The bill also proposes to require telephone utilities to provide necessary features to implement E-9-1-1 and to levy surcharges on telephone exchange lines for additional funding of the system. The bill proposes to address the location of public safety answering points, to make certain information confidential and to limit the liability of telephone utilities in providing technical services and information for the E-9-1-1 system.

The bill also proposes to repeal certain provisions of the law relating to E-9-1-1 capacity and the establishment of the statewide E-9-1-1 system.

In addition, the bill proposes to make certain appropriations for the establishment of the Emergency Services Communication Agency and amends Public Law 1987, chapter 840 to allow for the issuance of bonds until January 1, 1997 for partial funding of the E-9-1-1 system.

**LD 1475      An Act to Deregulate Consumer-owned Water Utilities** CARRIED OVER

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
VOSE

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to deregulate consumer-owned water utilities.

**LD 1482      An Act to Improve the Business Climate in the State by Making Power Available at a Lower Rate** CARRIED OVER

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
VIGUE

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to allow an electric utility and a business entity of 200 or more employees to negotiate rates for the purchase of electricity by the business entity without review by the Public Utilities Commission. The bill also proposes to provide that a utility may not charge a fee for the use of its facilities to transmit or wheel the electricity to the business entity purchaser.

**LD 1483 An Act Regarding Cable Television**

**CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
ADAMS

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to provide consumers with increased information concerning cable franchise owners and to prohibit a cable television system operator from providing private information about consumers to others.

The bill also proposes to instruct the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities to monitor federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the federal Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, and to authorize the committee to report legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 116th Legislature to take necessary state implementation actions.

**LD 1484 An Act to Amend the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Water System**

**P & S 38  
EMERGENCY**

**SPONSOR(S)**  
HEINO

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
H-390

**SUMMARY**

This bill clarifies the power and authority of the Boothbay Harbor Water System to construct a water treatment, purification and filtration plant, to lay pipes and construct such other facilities or fixtures for the conveyance of wastewater to enable the operation of any such treatment or purification plant and to acquire property for the purpose of operating any such plant, conveying wastewater or constructing or installing any equipment incidental to these purposes.

In addition, this bill extends the territory within which the Boothbay Harbor Water System may operate to include the Town of Southport, Mouse Island and other adjacent islands.

Finally, this bill proposed to permit the water commissioners to appoint a new commissioner to complete the unexpired term of a commissioner who is unable to complete that term.

The committee amendment (H-390) makes the following changes to the bill:

1. Corrects a reference to the Boothbay Harbor Water System;
2. Clarifies a reference to Squirrel Island, which is a village corporation;
3. Provides that the annual election of commissioners is to be held in May, not March; and