

# 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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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 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

4. Changes the provision of the bill that proposed to allow 2 commissioners to appoint the 3rd commissioner when there is a vacancy. Under this amendment, the board of selectmen of the Town of Boothbay Harbor may appoint a commissioner to fill the vacancy until the next election in May, when a new commissioner is elected.

**LD 1502      An Act to Identify Potential Costs of Utility Projects to Municipalities and Corporations That Provide Services to Municipalities      CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
DUTREMBLE D

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to provide that utility hydroelectric projects that affect river water levels are subject to municipal zoning ordinances and municipal review. The bill also proposes to impose additional requirements on utilities to provide communities affected by the utilities' projects notice of the impact and costs of those projects.

**LD 1526      An Act to Amend the Charter of the Oxford Water District      P & S 42  
EMERGENCY**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
BENNETT                              OTP-AM                                      H-471

**SUMMARY**

This bill increases the borrowing authority of the Oxford Water District from \$300,000 to \$1,500,000.

The committee amendment (H-471) adds a mandate preamble.

**LD 1538      An Act to Establish Curtailable Load Retention Service      CARRIED OVER**

**SPONSOR(S)**                      **COMMITTEE REPORT**                      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
LAWRENCE  
LEMONT

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposes to create a special curtailable load-retention service rate for certain industrial customers.

4825NRG