

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
116TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
UTILITIES

MAY 1994

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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
BILL SUMMARIES**

MAY 1994

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, 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

P&S XXX

RESOLVE XXX

CON RES XXX

EMERGENCY

ONTP

INDEF PP

FAILED ENACTMENT

FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT

FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE

VETO SUSTAINED

UNSIGNED

DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

Chapter # of enacted Public Law

Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law

Chapter # of enacted Resolve

Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses

Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days

Ought Not to Pass report accepted

Bill Indefinitely Postponed

Bill failed to get majority vote

Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote

Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote

House & Senate disagree; bill died

Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died

Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Not signed by Governor within 10 days

Action incomplete when session ended; bill died

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If you have any suggestions or comments on the summaries, please let us know.

5581LHS

LD 1684 An Act to Amend the Charter of the Brewer Water District P & S 61

SPONSOR(S) RUHLIN O'DEA	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED H-731
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SUMMARY

This bill increases the number of trustees of the Brewer Water District from 3 to 5.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-731) makes technical corrections to the bill. It also adds a municipal mandate preamble and a fiscal note.

LD 1685 An Act to Inform Telephone Consumers of Options for Deterring Unwanted Telephone Solicitation ONTP

SPONSOR(S) KONTOS	COMMITTEE REPORT ONTP	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
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SUMMARY

This bill proposed to require telephone utilities to provide regular notices to subscribers of their options under federal and state laws to limit, block or otherwise deter unwanted telephone solicitations.

**LD 1695 An Act to Amend the Waldoboro Utility District Charter P & S 62
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) SPEAR BEGLEY	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED H-722
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SUMMARY

This bill amends the Waldoboro Utility District charter by removing the debt limit of the charter and by adding a section that will allow the district to purchase the Waldoboro Water Company.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-722) makes technical corrections to the bill. It also adds a municipal mandate preamble and a fiscal note.

**LD 1696 An Act to Create the Mount Desert Water District P & S 83
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S) ZIRNKILTON	COMMITTEE REPORT OTP-AM	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED H-841
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SUMMARY

This bill proposed to create the Seal Harbor Water District.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-841) replaces the bill. This amendment creates the Mount Desert Water District. This amendment also amends the title to reflect the changes made to the bill.

The district created under this amendment is designed to serve the purposes of the district proposed under the original bill. The territory of the district has been modified and various provisions of the charter modified for purposes of clarification.

This amendment also adds a municipal mandate preamble, an emergency preamble, an emergency referendum clause and a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1720 An Act to Encourage Innovation and Competitiveness by
Electric Utilities**

PUBLIC 535

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CARPENTER	OTP-AM	S-415

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to make confidential information which an electric utility determined to be competitively sensitive.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-415) strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment clarifies an ambiguity which may have existed in current law with regard to whether records placed under protective orders are public records within the meaning of the freedom of access laws. The amendment clarifies that information placed under protective order by the Public Utilities Commission falls within the existing exception to the definition of public records under the freedom of access law. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1747 An Act to Protect the Interests of the Town of Otis in
Certain Ponds**

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
FOSTER	ONTP MAJ	
	OTP-AM MIN	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to amend the charter of the Bangor Water District to prohibit the district from taking by eminent domain any land in the Town of Otis.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-493), which was the minority report of the committee, proposed to require certain investigations of the district, to repeal the authority of the district to take water from sources in Otis and to require that certain contracts entered into by the district be approved by the Bangor City Council.

LD 1760 An Act to Amend the Utility Location Permit Laws

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
SAXL	ONTP	

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to make the following changes to law.

1. Permit licensing authorities to assess annual fees for use of the public way. The fee would have been capped and would have applied only to facilities installed or relocated after September 1, 1994. There would have been exemptions from the fee for governmental and consumer-owned entities. An exemption would also have been provided for public utilities that pay local property taxes on permitted facilities to a municipality or to a county.