

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
UTILITIES AND ENERGY

AUGUST 1995

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

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

AUGUST 1995

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing 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 publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, 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 categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

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

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

LD 23 **An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the West Paris Water District** **P & S 8
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WINSOR HANLEY	OTP-AM	H-17

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to remove the \$300,000 debt limitation imposed on the West Paris Water District.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-17) strikes and replaces the bill and amends the title to reflect the changes made. The amendment increases the debt limit from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000. The amendment also adds a mandate preamble, an emergency preamble, an emergency referendum clause and a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 26 **An Act to Amend the Charter of the Kingfield Water District** **P & S 9**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
DEXTER	OTP-AM	H-25

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to amend the charter of the Kingfield Water District by raising the amount paid to a trustee from \$50 to \$150.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-25) replaces the bill and amends the title to reflect the changes. This amendment repeals the provisions of the Kingfield Water District having to do with the election, salaries and powers and duties of trustees and replaces the provisions with updated language and references to Title 35-A, section 6303, which covers these issues.

LD 38 **An Act to Amend the Charter of the Sewer District of the Town of Kennebunk by Expanding Its Territorial Limits** **P & S 7
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
LIBBY JL	OTP-AM	H-18

SUMMARY

This bill expands the territory of the Kennebunk Sewer District.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-18) adds a mandate preamble and makes certain technical changes to the bill.

LD 61 **An Act to Facilitate Charging Electric Utility Customers Based on Actual Usage** **ONTP**

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

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to restrict electric utilities in the practice of billing customers on the basis of utility estimates of the customers' usage.

This bill would have allowed a customer the option of choosing to be billed on the basis of the customer's meter reading in lieu of being billed on the basis of the utility estimate. This bill would have required a utility to notify customers of this option on a quarterly basis during any period in which the utility proposes to use an estimated-usage billing procedure.

LD 71 An Act to Amend the Charter of the Port Clyde Water District

**P & S 4
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)

PINGREE

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

S-11

SUMMARY

This bill raises the current debt limit of the Port Clyde Water District from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-11) makes certain technical changes to the bill and adds a fiscal note.

LD 135 An Act Relating to Telephone Solicitation

PUBLIC 334

SPONSOR(S)

CLARK

COMMITTEE REPORT

OTP-AM MAJ
OTP-AM MIN

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

H-462

SUMMARY

Current law requires telephone utilities to keep listings of persons who do not wish to receive automated telephone solicitations. The bill repeals this requirement.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-462), which was the majority report of the committee, preserves that portion of the bill which repeals the requirement that telephone utilities keep listings of persons who do not wish to receive automated telephone solicitations.

The amendment incorporates federal law regarding telephone solicitation and provides for the same remedies for violations of this state law as are currently provided for violations of the federal law. Under the amendment, a person or entity may not place a solicitation call to a residential telephone subscriber who has notified the person or entity that the subscriber does not want to receive solicitation calls from that person or entity. A subscriber can seek the specified remedies for a violation and the Attorney General can pursue those same remedies on behalf of consumers if the Attorney General believes a person or entity has engaged in a pattern or practice of violations.

The amendment amends the title of the bill and title of the chapter of law affected by the amendment, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, chapter 225, to reflect the content of the amendment. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 283 An Act Relating to the Joint Use of Equipment

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)

MILLS
ROTONDI

COMMITTEE REPORT

ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to require the Public Utilities Commission to allow joint use of facilities when 2 or more utilities are providing service in the same municipality.