

# 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

**Staff:**

*Jon P. Clark, Legislative Analyst*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207)287-1670*

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Sen. John J. Cleveland*

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*\*Denotes Chair*



**Maine State Legislature  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

State House Station 13, Augusta, Maine 04333  
Telephone (207) 287-1670  
Telecopier (207) 287-1275

**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:

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

**LD 284 An Act Amending the Charter of the Department of Electric Works within the Town of Madison**

P & S 15  
EMERGENCY

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MILLS  
ROTONDI

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-57

**SUMMARY**

This bill increases the short-term borrowing capacity of the Madison Department of Electric Works to the level necessary for current operations.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-57) adds a referendum clause, a mandate preamble and a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 315 An Act to Allow Disclosure of Residential Natural Gas Costs**

PUBLIC 11

**SPONSOR(S)**  
ADAMS  
CLEVELAND

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill requires utilities to disclose to tenants and other customers or prospective customers residential natural gas cost and consumption information for the preceding 12 months.

**LD 318 An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding the Extension of Municipal Sewer and Water Lines**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
CIANCHETTE

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to amend the laws governing sewer extensions as follows.

1. It proposed to require that a sanitary district first acquire certain assurances from the municipal officers of each municipality through which a sewer line passes, and from the municipality from which the line originates.
2. It proposed to require the municipal officers of each affected municipality to hold a hearing on a proposed sewer line extension and issue a written decision within 7 days of the hearing.
3. It proposed to provide new definitions of "sewer service" and "sewer line extension."

**LD 327 An Act to Amend and Clarify the Powers and Duties of the State Planning Office**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
HARRIMAN

**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP

**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to restrict the information that may be included in the survey of energy prices provided by the State Planning Office.