

# 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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*\*Denotes Chair*



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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 &amp; 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&amp;S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; 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

**LD 619**      **An Act Regarding Consumer-owned Electric Utilities**      **ONTP**

**SPONSOR(S)**      **COMMITTEE REPORT**      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
ADAMS      ONTP

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to exempt consumer-owned electric utilities from the requirement of getting prior approval of the Public Utilities Commission before entering agreements and contracts relating to generating capacity.

**LD 627**      **An Act to Amend the Kennebec Water District Charter by**      **P & S 31**  
**Allowing the Town of Vassalboro and the Town of Benton to**  
**have a Permanent Member on the Board of Trustees**

**SPONSOR(S)**      **COMMITTEE REPORT**      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
MITCHELL EH      ONTP      H-373      KONTOS  
BUSTIN

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to amend the charter of the Kennebec Water District by increasing the number of members on the board of trustees from 7 to 8 in order to allow the Town of Vassalboro and the Town of Benton to each have a permanent member on the board of trustees.

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-373), which was developed and approved by the committee, strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment adds a mandate preamble, an emergency preamble and an emergency clause to the bill. The amendment changes the charter of the Kennebec Water District. Currently, the board of trustees of the district is made up of 7 trustees, one of whom alternates between Vassalboro and Benton. Under this amendment the number of trustees is increased to 8 and Vassalboro and Benton each have a trustee on the board, but the trustees from Benton and Vassalboro each have only a 1/2 vote.

See LD 1326.

**LD 649**      **An Act to Prohibit an Electric Utility from Estimating**      **ONTP**  
**a Monthly Bill at a Rate Higher Than the Prior**  
**Month's Bill**

**SPONSOR(S)**      **COMMITTEE REPORT**      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
GOULD      ONTP

**SUMMARY**

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

**LD 666**      **An Act to Streamline Procedures before the Public**      **ONTP**  
**Utilities Commission**

**SPONSOR(S)**      **COMMITTEE REPORT**      **AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
JOYNER      ONTP

**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to change certain laws relating to the Public Utilities Commission. Several of these changes were incorporated into the committee amendment to LD 1268.