

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

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*

**MEMBERS:**

*\*Sen. David L. Carpenter  
Sen. Philip E. Harriman  
Sen. John J. Cleveland*

*\*Rep. Carol A. Kontos  
Rep. Herbert Adams  
Rep. M. Ida Luther  
Rep. Thomas E. Poulin  
Rep. Conrad Heeschen  
Rep. Gary L. O'Neal  
Rep. Joseph B. Taylor  
Rep. F. Thomas Gieringer, Jr.  
Rep. Theodore M. Poirier  
Rep. Richard I. Stone*

*\*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:

<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 1050 An Act to Encourage Competitiveness by Public Utilities**

ONTP

**SPONSOR(S)**  
FAIRCLOTH**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
ONTP**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED****SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to make confidential any proprietary marketing plan that a public utility files with the commission.

**LD 1058 An Act Concerning the Richmond Utilities District**

P &amp; S 28

**SPONSOR(S)**  
MCCORMICK**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-183**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to terminate the Richmond Utilities District and allow the Town of Richmond to acquire the assets and liabilities of the Richmond Utilities District upon voter approval by the inhabitants of the Town of Richmond and a ratification vote by the Trustees of the Richmond Utilities District.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-183) replaces the bill and amends Private and Special Law 1995, chapter 10 enacted earlier in the First Regular Session of the 117th Legislature (LD 337). That law increased the debt limit of the Richmond Utilities District and made the increase subject to referendum. Under the law, the district had only one opportunity to submit the debt increase for referendum and if it failed, new legislation would be required to authorize subsequent referenda. This amendment allows the district to put the question to referendum more than once. The district must hold the referenda prior to December 15, 1996.

**LD 1063 Resolve, to Require a Study of Retail Competition in the Electric Industry**RESOLVE 48  
EMERGENCY**SPONSOR(S)**  
CARPENTER  
CLEVELAND**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
OTP-AM**AMENDMENTS ADOPTED**  
S-251**SUMMARY**

This bill proposed to require the Public Utilities Commission to investigate the issues associated with the orderly transition to a more competitive market for electricity.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-251) replaces all the provisions of the resolve and changes the title to reflect the new content of the resolve. The amendment:

1. Creates a 2-part study designed to develop plans for an orderly transition to a competitive market for retail purchases and sales of electric energy;
2. Creates the Work Group on Electric Industry Restructuring, composed of 18 members, to study the transition and to develop a consensus on as many of the relevant issues as possible;
3. Directs the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a study of the transition and to develop at least 2 plans for the transition as follows:
  - A. A plan to achieve full retail market competition for purchases and sales of electric energy by the year 2000; and