

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 & 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

LD 1502 An Act Concerning Municipal Electric Districts and the Development of a Competitive Energy Market

ONTP

SPONSOR(S)
SAMSON

COMMITTEE REPORT
ONTP

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill proposed to require the Public Utilities Commission to approve the formation of a new municipal utility district whenever the formation has received a favorable vote of a majority of the municipalities' voters.

The bill also proposed to establish as a policy of this State the encouragement of a competitive market for electrical energy and to require the Public Utilities Commission to give explicit consideration and weight to this policy in its decisions.

LD 1533 An Act to Require the Public Utilities Commission to Ensure Telecommunications Service in Economic Development Areas

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
DONNELLY

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill proposes to direct the Public Utilities Commission to allow special rates for telecommunications services to commercial and industrial customers located in economic development areas.

LD 1565 An Act to Create the Prospect Water Authority

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
WHITCOMB

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

This bill proposes to create the Prospect Water Authority.

LD 1567 An Act to Facilitate Sewer and Water Main Extensions

CARRIED OVER

SPONSOR(S)
OTT

COMMITTEE REPORT

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

SUMMARY

Current law requires, prior to constructing an extension, that a sewer district obtain assurance from the municipality through which the extension will pass that the extension and the user of the extension are in conformance with the municipality's plans and ordinances. Notice of the proposed extension must be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

This bill proposes to repeal those requirements and instead to require the sewer district to consult with the municipality to determine compliance. This bill also proposes to require the licensing authority to obtain a bond from a private installer of a sewer or water line.