

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
118TH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
AND  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**BILL SUMMARIES  
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
UTILITIES AND ENERGY**

**JULY 1997**

**MEMBERS:**

*Sen. Richard J. Carey, Chair*

*Sen. John J. Cleveland*

*Sen. Philip E. Harriman*

*Rep. Kyle W. Jones, Chair*

*Rep. Carol A. Kontos*

*Rep. Ronald E. Usher*

*Rep. Gary O'Neal*

*Rep. Patrick Colwell*

*Rep. Charles C. Laverdiere*

*Rep. Joseph B. Taylor*

*Rep. Henry L. Joy*

*Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.*

*Rep. John W. Vedral*

**Staff:**

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**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**August 1997**

We are pleased to provide this summary of bills that were considered by the 15 Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature staffed by this office. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill, committee amendments and other relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken on the bill. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this Session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills handled by the joint standing committees. It is organized alphabetically by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>Bill carried over to Second Regular 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 IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</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/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</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>OTP ND</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft</i>
<i>OTP ND/NT</i> .....	<i>Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title</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 finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is June 26, 1997 and September 19, 1997 for the First Special Session.

*David E. Boulter, Director*  
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

**LD 1357**

**An Act to Enhance Public Knowledge of Nuclear Power**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KONTOS TREAT	ONTP	

LD 1357 proposed the following:

1. Require the Attorney General to establish a Maine Yankee Atomic Power Plant working group to monitor and respond to events involving or related to the plant that may impact the health, safety and welfare of the people of the State.
2. Require the seller of real estate located within the emergency planning area around a nuclear power plant to notify all prospective buyers of the proximity of the power plant to the real estate; and
3. Require the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Committee to include in its Emergency Radiological Response Plan the following: the marking of evacuation routes; the placement of emergency response placards in rental units located in the emergency response area around a nuclear power plant; the development of emergency preparedness programs for schools located in the emergency response area and quarterly broadcasts on television and radio providing emergency response instructions.

**LD 1423**

**An Act Regarding Sewer District Upgrades**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAWRENCE WRIGHT	ONTP	

LD 1423 proposed to change the formula governing utility eligibility for reimbursement from the Department of Transportation for the cost of utility relocation caused by highway and bridge projects.

**LD 1539**

**Resolve, to Ensure a Reduction in Electric Power Rates in the Event of Electric Power Industry Restructuring**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VIGUE JENKINS	ONTP	

LD 1539 proposed to require a reduction of electric rates for residential and industrial customers in the event of electric industry restructuring. (See LD 1804.)