

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. Richard J. Carey, Chair

Sen. Carol A. Kontos

Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell

Rep. Thomas M. Davidson, Chair

Rep. Patrick Colwell

Rep. Charles C. LaVerdiere

Rep. Bruce S. Bryant

Rep. Monica McGlocklin

Rep. William R. Savage

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Rep. Harry G. True

Rep. Richard H. Duncan

Rep. Richard W. Rosen

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

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

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized 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).

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:

CARRIED OVER.....Bill carried over to Second Regular Session
CON RES XXX..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY..... Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP ND..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OTP ND/NT..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED.....Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-213) proposed to change the reporting date from January 15, 2000 to December 31, 1999. This amendment was adopted in both bodies although the bill was subsequently indefinitely postponed.

LD 767

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 311: Renewable Resource Portfolio Requirement, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission

**RESOLVE 47
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 767 proposed approval of Chapter 311: Renewable Resource Portfolio Requirement, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 47 approves Chapter 311: Renewable Resource Portfolio Requirement, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission.

The renewable resource portfolio requirements in law were amended by LD 2154 and commensurate changes to the rules required.

Chapter 47 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 24, 1999.

LD 768

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 301: Standard Offer Service, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission

**RESOLVE 37
EMERGENCY**

<u>Reported by</u> DAVIDSON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-328
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LD 768 proposed approval of Chapter 301: Standard Office Service, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-328) proposed to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to finally adopt its rule, Chapter 301: Standard Offer Service, provided it made certain changes to the rule.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 37 authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to finally adopt its rule, Chapter 301: Standard Offer Service, provided it makes several changes to the rule that accomplish the following:

1. Establish standard offer classes and require providers to bid separately on each class;
2. Set the initial period of the standard offer at one year;
3. Assign responsibility for uncollectibles to standard offer providers;