

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:

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Sen. Carol A. Kontos

Sen. Betty Lou Mitchell

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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.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> SHIAH	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-523
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LD 1649 proposed to expand the electric restructuring renewable resource research and development program and to transfer administration of the program from the Public Utilities Commission to the State Planning Office. The bill proposed to expand the program to include funding for demonstration community projects using renewable energy technologies. The bill also proposed to appropriate money to the program to supplement voluntary contributions to the program from electric consumers.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-523) proposed to remove the appropriation from the bill. The amendment proposed to create a Renewable Resource Fund, administered by the State Planning Office, to serve as the depository for all funds collected for the voluntary renewable resource program.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 372 expands the electric restructuring renewable resource research and development program and transfers administration of the program from the Public Utilities Commission to the State Planning Office. The program is expanded to include funding for demonstration community projects using renewable energy technologies. Funding for the program remains voluntary contributions by electric consumers but the law establishes a Renewable Resource Fund, administered by the State Planning Office, to serve as the depository for all funds collected for the renewable resource program.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUGAY GOLDTHWAIT	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-333
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LD 1650 proposed to confirm the charter of the Addison Point Water District.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-333) proposed to authorize the Addison Point Water District to file a certificate of organization with the Secretary of State.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 20 confirms the charter of the Addison Point Water District and authorizes the Addison Point Water District to file a certificate of organization with the Secretary of State.

Chapter 20 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 19, 1999.