

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE  
119TH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

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

**JULY 2000**

***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***

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**ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees**  
**July 2000**

We are pleased to provide this summary of 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](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:

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  
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote  
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE..... Bill failed to get majority vote  
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT..... Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote  
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 Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 11, 2000.

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



3. to designate the numerals "9-1-1" as the primary telephone number to request emergency services following the activation of the E-9-1-1 services for a telephone exchange;
4. to prohibit the use of the numerals "9-1-1" for purposes, including commercial advertising, other than to request emergency services and to require 9-1-1 to be in block lettering when used to advertise the number and its use to the public;
5. to require telephone companies to publish 9-1-1 as the primary emergency telephone number for those exchanges in which E-9-1-1 services have been activated.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-560)** proposed to replace the bill, though several substantive provisions of the bill were incorporated in the amendment. The amendment proposed:

1. to remove that portion of the bill that would have retroactively reinstated the E-9-1-1 surcharge and instead to reenact the surcharge and provide for delayed collection of the surcharge by those telecommunications service providers who continued to collect the surcharge after its repeal. Monies collected after the repeal of the surcharge would be directed to be deposited in the E-9-1-1 fund as payment in lieu of the surcharge amounts that would have been imposed and collected but for the delayed collection schedule;
2. to remove that portion of the bill that would have allowed public safety agencies access to the audio recordings of E-9-1-1 calls for purpose of investigation of complaints;
3. to consolidate and clarify those portions of the bill relating to the inclusion of the number 9-1-1 in telephone directories;
4. to narrow and clarify the portion of the bill limiting the use of the number 9-1-1 for commercial purposes;
5. to provide that certain costs incurred by local exchange carriers in providing database development services for the development of the E-9-1-1 system be reimbursed from the E-9-1-1 fund, provided the expenses are approved by the Public Utilities Commission; and
6. to require the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to undertake an examination of issues related to possible reimbursement of costs incurred by wireless service providers related to the development of the E-9-1-1 system.

#### ***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 651 reenacts the E-9-1-1 surcharge and provides for delayed collection of the surcharge by those telecommunications service providers who continued to collect the surcharge after its repeal; establishes certain requirements relating to the inclusion of the number 9-1-1 in telephone directories; prohibits confusing commercial use of number 9-1-1; provides that certain costs incurred by local exchange carriers in providing database development services for the development of the E-9-1-1 system are reimbursed from the E-9-1-1 fund; and requires the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to undertake an examination of issues related to possible reimbursement of costs incurred by wireless service providers related to the development of the E-9-1-1 system.

Public Law 1999, chapter 651 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 2000.