

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
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Rep. Charles C. LaVerdiere
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Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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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).

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

LD 2554

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy Arising from its State Government Evaluation Act Review of the Public Utilities Commission

PUBLIC 584

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

H-838 DAVIDSON

LD 2554 implements the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy arising from its State Government Evaluation Act review of the Public Utilities Commission. This bill requires the commission to provide to the committee annual reports on rural and regional issues related to the restructuring of utility industries and the creation of competitive markets. In order to ensure that the committee has the ability to respond quickly and effectively to developments in the restructuring of utility industries, the committee is provided standing authorization to report out legislation on the restructuring of utility industries and the creation or maintenance of competitive markets.

House Amendment "A" (H-838) removes the language authorizing the committee to report out legislation to any session of any Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 584 implements the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy arising from its State Government Evaluation Act review of the Public Utilities Commission. It requires the commission to provide to the committee annual reports on rural and regional issues related to the restructuring of utility industries and the creation of competitive markets.

LD 2566

An Act to Repeal the Fort Kent Utility District

P & S 73

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

MARTIN
PARADIS

OTP

LD 2566 proposed to repeal the Fort Kent Utility District Charter.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 73 repeals the Fort Kent Utility District. Pursuant to law passed in 1999, the operations of the district have been transferred to the town of Fort Kent.