

# 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***

***Rep. Bruce S. Bryant***

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***Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.***

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***Rep. Richard H. Duncan***

***Rep. Richard W. Rosen***

***Staff:***

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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:

<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>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</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 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

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NASS LIBBY	OTP-AM	H-938

LD 2586 proposed to create the Alfred Water District to allow it to acquire the properties, franchises, etc. of the Alfred Water Company.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-938)** proposed to clarify that if the Alfred Water District acquires the plants, properties, franchises, rights and privileges owned by the Alfred Water Company, the district assumes and becomes responsible for all debts and liabilities of that company.

*Enacted law summary*

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 77 creates the Alfred Water District and authorizes the district to acquire the plants, properties, franchises, rights and privileges owned by the Alfred Water Company.

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 77 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 2000, subject to approval in a district referendum.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-998

LD 2591, reported by the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy pursuant to a joint order, proposed to amend the transient sales law with respect to telemarketers and to modify the law regarding the use of automated telephone calling devices. Specifically, the bill proposed:

1. to incorporate the Federal Trade Commission's Telemarketing Sales Rule into the transient sales law;
2. to prohibit a transient seller of consumer merchandise who is a telemarketer and who initiates telephone contact with a consumer from obtaining or submitting for payment a check, draft or other form of negotiable paper drawn on a consumer's checking, savings or bond or other account without the consumer's express, verifiable written authorization;
3. to prohibit a transient seller of consumer merchandise who is a telemarketer and who initiates telephone contact with a consumer from procuring the services of any professional delivery courier or other pick-up service to obtain immediate receipt or possession of a consumer's payment, unless the goods are delivered with the opportunity to inspect before any payment is collected;
4. to require a transient seller of consumer merchandise who is a telemarketer to obtain subscription listings of consumers who have arranged to be included on the Direct Marketing Association's do-not-