

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

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Jon Clark, Senior Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

13 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

(207)287-1670



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
 Telephone: (207) 287-1670
 Fax: (207) 287-1275

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:

<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 & 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&S XXX</i>	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private & 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>
MCKEE	OTP-AM	H-1012

LD 2624 proposed to allow a municipality that receives dispatch services from an agency approved as a public safety answering point to choose that agency as its public safety answering point.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-1012) proposed to replace the bill and convert it into a resolve. The resolve proposed to require the Director of the Emergency Services Communication Bureau within the Department of Public Safety to develop and implement a plan for monitoring, evaluating and making appropriate adjustments to the E-9-1-1 system as it is implemented and operated; to develop and implement a plan for improving the bureau's relationship and communications with providers of emergency services and dispatching services and with community leaders and the public; and to provide copies of these plans to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy by August 1, 2000.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 110 requires the Director of the Emergency Services Communication Bureau within the Department of Public Safety to develop and implement a plan for monitoring, evaluating and making appropriate adjustments to the E-9-1-1 system as it is implemented and operated and a plan for improving the bureau's relationship and communications with providers of emergency services and dispatching services and with community leaders and the public. The bureau is directed to provide copies of the plans to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy by August 1, 2000.

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY NASS	ONTP	

LD 2656 proposed to require electric utilities to provide the first 300 feet of a single-phase overhead distribution line extension to a customer for free and to allow for installment payments for up to 5 years for extensions of up to 2,000 feet. This bill also proposed to require electric utilities to submit a proposed standard per-foot installation charge for single-phase overhead distribution line extensions within 90 days after the effective date of this bill.

Though this bill was not passed, the committee sent a letter to the Public Utilities Commission requesting that it examine issues related to electric line extension policies.