

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
120th Legislature*

First Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Utilities and Energy*

August 2001

Members:

*Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Chair
Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat
Sen. David L. Carpenter*

*Rep. William R. Savage, Chair
Rep. Monica McGlocklin
Rep. Albion D. Goodwin*

Rep. Lawrence Bliss

Rep. Christopher G. L. Hall

Rep. Peter L. Rines

Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.

Rep. Richard H. Duncan

Rep. Royce W. Perkins

Rep. Richard A. Crabtree

Staff:

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Maine State Legislature
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120th Legislature
First Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
August 2001

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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 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*
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 First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is **September 21, 2001**.

David E. Boulter, Director
 Offices Located in the State House, Rooms 101/107/135

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

Because the original bill would not take effect until after the Portland Water District trustee election in June, 2001, the law applies on a retroactive basis.

This law was enacted as an emergency measure effective on June 14, 2001.

SP 566 **JOINT ORDER, Relative to Blue Ribbon Commission on Electric Energy Production, Demand and Cost** **DIED ON ADJOURNMENT**

Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted

SP 566 proposed to create the Blue Ribbon Commission on Electric Energy Production, Demand and Cost. The commission would be directed to study developments in the Maine electric energy market since deregulation and report to the Legislature its findings. The commission would be directed to report on the issues studied with any recommended legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than January 1, 2002.

Committee Amendment "A" ((S-138)) proposed to direct that a subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy conduct a study of the electric industry. The subcommittee would be required to report its findings together with any recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than January 1, 2002.

HP 719 **JOINT ORDER, Relative to Special Legislative Oversight Committee for Regional Electricity Issues** **ONTP**

Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted

HP 719 proposed to create a Special Legislative Oversight Committee for Regional Electricity Issues. The committee would be directed to study and make recommendations concerning:

1. The design and operation of the New England regional electricity market;
2. The appropriate size and scope of a regional transmission organization to be created to serve the needs of Maine's consumers of electricity;
3. The extent to which the State's consumers of electricity may be harmed by anticompetitive behavior in the energy market and ways the Legislature may act to protect consumers; and
4. Related matters that the committee considers appropriate. The committee would be directed to submit a report with recommendations and any accompanying legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy during the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature by January 15, 2002.