

# 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*

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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](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:

*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

This legislation proposed to expand the eminent domain authority of the Town of Bar Harbor to allow it to acquire the property assets including personal property assets of the Bar Harbor Water Company. This bill proposed to allow the town to operate a water supply system.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-45)** proposed to replace the bill. This amendment proposed to grant authority to the Town of Bar Harbor to acquire by purchase or eminent domain the Bar Harbor Water Company.

This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-175)** proposed to remove from the committee amendment the grant of authority to the Town of Bar Harbor to acquire by eminent domain the Bar Harbor Water Company. This amendment proposed to retain that portion of the amendment that authorizes the town's acquisition of the water company by purchase.

### *Enacted law summary*

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 16 grants authority to the Town of Bar Harbor to acquire by purchase or eminent domain the Bar Harbor Water Company.

This law was enacted as an emergency measure effective on May 9, 2001.

**LD 570**

**An Act to Remove Redundant Written Authorization Requirements**

**PUBLIC 40**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COLWELL MICHAUD MH	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-42
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LD 570 proposed to remove the requirement for multiple written authorizations in order to install new utility services. Written authorization would only be required for the first utility installing service. Any subsequent utility installing services would not be required to obtain written authorization in order to install new services.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-42)** proposed to make it clear that the first utility to install service to a lot in a subdivision or structure in a shoreland zone must comply with the written authorization requirements of current law.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 40 removes the requirement for multiple written authorizations in order to install new utility services. Written authorization is only required for the first utility installing service. Any subsequent utility installing services is not required to obtain written authorization in order to install new services.