

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
120th Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Utilities and Energy*

*May 2002*

**Members:**

*Sen. Norman K. Ferguson, Jr., 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
Second Regular Session

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees
May 2002

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 organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name and within committees by bill (LD) number.

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
PASSED..... Joint Order passed in both bodies
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 July 25, 2002.

Patrick T. Norton, Interim Director
Offices located in Room 215 of the Cross Office Building

## Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

LD 646, which was carried over from the First Regular Session, proposed to establish the Maine Energy Advisory Council to advise and make recommendations to the State Planning Office concerning energy issues.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-882)** proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to create the Energy Advisory Council to facilitate more effective interagency coordination of the State's activities regarding energy issues. The proposed Council would be comprised of the Director of the State Planning Office, Chair of the Public Utilities Commission, Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the Public Advocate, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Director of the Maine State Housing Authority and staffed by the State Planning Office. The amendment proposed to change the title and add a fiscal note to the bill.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2001, chapter 630 creates the Energy Advisory Council to facilitate more effective interagency coordination of the State's activities regarding energy issues. The Council is comprised of the Director of the State Planning Office, Chair of the Public Utilities Commission, Commissioner of Environmental Protection, the Public Advocate, Commissioner of Transportation, Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Director of the Maine State Housing Authority.

**LD 1139**                      **An Act to Ensure Access to Energy Markets for Maine's Small Hydroelectric Facilities**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> EDMONDS		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1139, which was carried over from the First Regular Session, proposed to require transmission and distribution utilities to purchase power from hydroelectric energy facilities with a capacity of less than 5 megawatts at the average wholesale market clearing price for the period during which the electricity is metered.

**LD 1412**                      **An Act Relating to the Transfer of Certain Privileges Bestowed by the Legislature upon Great Northern Paper, Inc. to Great Northern Energy, LLC**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MICHAUD MH STANLEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1412, which was carried over from the First Regular Session, proposed to provide that the rights and privileges held by Great Northern Paper, Inc. that relate to the location, construction, operation or maintenance of dams used in the generation of electricity would be transferred to Great Northern Energy, LLC upon the acquisition by Great Northern Energy of the dams.