

# 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**  
**OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS**

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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

**Senate Amendment "C" (S-306)** proposed to specify that the State Police may provide facilities or other assistance for the operation of public safety answering points.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-252)** proposed to allow Hancock County and Aroostook County to retain any E-9-1-1 surcharge collected in those counties beyond whatever has been spent.

**Senate Amendment "B" (S-292)** proposed to provide that the 50¢ surcharge reverts back to 32¢ on June 30, 2002 unless affirmative action is taken by the Legislature to change the law.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-687)** proposed to require the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy to conduct a State Government evaluation of the enhanced 9-1-1 emergency system in 2001.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-315)** proposed to provide that the 50¢ surcharge reverts to 32¢ 90 days after adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 121st Legislature. This amendment also proposed to reallocate review under the State Government Evaluation Act of the Emergency Services Communications Bureau within the Department of Public Safety from the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice matters to that having jurisdiction over utilities matters.

### LD 1538

#### An Act to Promote Retail Electricity Competition

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BENNETT		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1538 proposed to amend certain provisions of Maine's electric utility restructuring laws to:

1. Modify the surety bond requirements imposed on competitive electricity providers; and
2. Require that the Public Utilities Commission approve only those standard offers after July 1, 2001 that are at least one full year in duration and that provide a known and fixed price to customers to provide the full requirement energy and capacity needs of the customer group.

### LD 1618

#### An Act to Review Utility Easements on a Periodic Basis

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> STANLEY		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1618 proposed to require a transmission and distribution utility that owns transmission or distribution facilities located on an easement over property of another person to provide to the owner of the property notice of any change in the ownership of the facilities located on the easement and any modification of the facilities or use of the facilities that involves a permanent increase in the voltage carried over the facilities. It also proposed to require the utility at least once every 50 years and, for facilities constructed prior to the year 2001, at least once prior to January 1,