

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
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Rep. Donald P. Berry, Sr.
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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 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 arranged alphabetically by committee name 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>PASSED</i>	<i>Joint Order passed in both bodies</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 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 1845

An Act Authorizing the Town of Waldoboro to Refinance Certain Temporary Bond Anticipation Notes Issued for its Water Project

**P & S 51
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TRAHAN	OTP-AM	H-772 H-810 SAVAGE W

LD 1845 proposed to extend the period for temporary financing for the Town of Waldoboro's water project.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-772) proposed to extend the period of temporary financing for the Waldoboro water project an additional year so that the total period of temporary financing authorized is 6 years. It also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

House Amendment "A" (H-810) proposed to make a technical correction to the emergency preamble.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 51 extends the period for temporary financing for the Town of Waldoboro's water project to 6 years.

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 51 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 6, 2002.

LD 1857

An Act to Amend the Charter of the Mount Blue Water District

**P & S 48
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LAVERDIERE	OTP-AM	H-773

LD 1857 proposed to change the eligibility requirements for the election of trustees for the Mt. Blue Standard Water District. It also proposed to allow the trustees to determine the compensation for the trustees and the treasurer of the board of trustees. The bill also proposed to allow the trustees to elect a treasurer that is not a trustee of the district.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-773) proposed to clarify certain language of the bill relating to the hiring of a nontrustee as treasurer of the Mt. Blue Standard Water District and make this provision retroactive to the effective date of the law creating the district. It also proposed to allow a person who does not reside in the district to be a trustee if the person is a customer of the district. It proposed to allow the trustees to propose the compensation of the trustees and the treasurer, but to make the proposal subject to approval by the voters of the district. It proposed to make all these changes subject to referendum approval.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 48 amends the charter of the Mt. Blue Standard Water District to allow a person who does not reside in the district to be a trustee if the person is a customer of the district; to allow the trustees to propose the compensation of the trustees and the treasurer, but makes the proposal subject to approval by the voters of the district; and, retroactive to the effective date of the law creating the district, to allow the

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trustees to hire a treasurer who is not a trustee of the district. All these provisions are subject to referendum approval within the district.

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 48 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 21, 2002, subject to referendum approval.

LD 1862

An Act to Amend the Charter of the Winterport Sewerage District

**P & S 49
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
BROOKS

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
H-761
H-769 BROOKS

LD 1862 proposed to amend the Charter of the Winterport Sewerage District by increasing the debt limit to \$1,200,000. The bill also proposed to amend the charter by adding language that allows any subsequent debt changes to be made by referendum.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-761) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed:

1. To increase the debt limit of the Winterport Sewerage District from \$400,000 to \$1,200,000, subject to approval by local referendum; and
2. To permit the district to increase its debt limit in the future through a referendum process.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-769) proposed to add language to the referendum clause to address the fact that the Town of Winterport held a town meeting on Saturday, January 26, 2002 at which the question whether the debt limit of the Winterport Sewerage District should be increased to \$1,200,000 was voted and approved. The amendment proposed to provide that if due certificate of that vote is filed with the Secretary of State, Part A of the Act, which authorizes the increase in debt limit, takes effect when approved.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 49 amends the Charter of the Winterport Sewerage District to increase the debt limit of the Winterport Sewerage District from \$400,000 to \$1,200,000, subject to approval by local referendum, and to permit the district to increase its debt limit in the future through a referendum process. Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 49 recognizes that the Town of Winterport held a town meeting prior to enactment of this law at which the question whether the debt limit of the Winterport Sewerage District should be increased was voted and approved; the law provides that if due certificate of that vote is filed with the Secretary of State, the authority to increase in debt limit takes effect without the necessity of further referendum approval.

Private and Special Law 2001, chapter 49 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 21, 2002.