

# 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. 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 2107**

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 395 - Construction Standards and Ownership and Cost Allocation Rules for Electric Distribution Line Extensions, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission**

**RESOLVE 83  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP-AM	H-894

LD 2107 proposed to provide for legislative review of portions of Chapter 395 - Construction Standards and Ownership and Cost Allocation Rules for Electric Distribution Line Extensions, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-894)** proposed to authorize the final adoption of those portions of Chapter 395 - Construction Standards and Ownership and Cost Allocation Rules for Electric Distribution Line Extensions that are major substantive rules of the Public Utilities provided certain enumerated changes are made to the rule. The changes would (1) clarify that a transmission and distribution utility is not required to certify the safety of a private line but only to make a determination whether the line can be safely energized, (2) require a transmission and distribution utility to refuse to energize a private line if it is unsafe and allow a transmission and distribution utility to refuse to energize a private line if it otherwise does not meet the standards of the rules, (3) establish a timeframe for a transmission and distribution utility's inspection of a privately built line, a timeframe and process for resolving disputes between a transmission and distribution utility and a private line contractor about the application of the rules, and exemptions from these timeframes in cases of a weather emergency, and (4) increase the period of cost sharing among users of line extensions from 10 to 20 years.

### *Enacted law summary*

Resolve 2001, chapter 83 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 395 - Construction Standards and Ownership and Cost Allocation Rules for Electric Distribution Line Extensions, a major substantive rule of the Public Utilities Commission, provided certain enumerated changes are made to the rule.

Resolve 2001, chapter 83 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 21, 2002.

**LD 2147**

**An Act Providing for the Supply of Water to the City of Brewer**

**P & S 66  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
YOUNGBLOOD LEDWIN	OTP-AM	S-498 S-510 YOUNGBLOOD

LD 2147 proposed to authorize the City of Brewer to acquire the assets of the Brewer Water District. The bill also proposed to repeal the charter of the Brewer Water District.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-498)** proposed to replace the bill. This amendment proposed to preserve the essential elements of the bill but make various modifications and add new provisions. This amendment proposed to: