

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Utilities and Energy*

July 2006

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Maine State Legislature



Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular Session

Summary of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing 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/billsumm.htm).

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
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 (Pocket Veto).....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 23, 2006.

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

LD 1708

**An Act To Allow the Buckfield Village Corporation To Be
Dissolved and Combined with the Town of Buckfield**

**P & S 40
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HANLEY B		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1708 proposed to authorize the Buckfield Village Corporation to be dissolved and combined with the Town of Buckfield.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 40 authorizes the Buckfield Village Corporation to be dissolved and combined with the Town of Buckfield.

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 40 was enacted as an emergency measure and took effect on March 22, 2006 but only for the purposes of permitting its submission to the voters of the Town of Buckfield.

LD 1736

**An Act To Amend the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer
District**

**P & S 34
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BISHOP		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-745
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LD 1736 proposed to extend the territory of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District to include all of the territory of the Town of Boothbay. The bill also proposed to increase the debt limit of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District from \$5,500,000 to \$8,500,000.

Committee Amendment “A” (H-745) proposed to add a mandate preamble to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 34 extends the territory of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District to include all of the territory of the Town of Boothbay. The bill also increases the debt limit of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District from \$5,500,000 to \$8,500,000. This law was enacted with a mandate preamble exempting the state from reimbursing the district for any costs it incurs as a result of the law.

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 34 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 2, 2006.