

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

*State Of Maine
122nd Legislature*

Second Regular Session

Bill Summaries

*Joint Standing Committee
on
Utilities and Energy*

July 2006

Staff:

*Lucia A. Nixon, Legislative Analyst
Jon C. Clark, Deputy Director*

*Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670*

Members:

*Sen. Philip L. Bartlett II, Chair
Sen. Scott W. Cowger
Sen. Carol Weston*

*Rep. Lawrence Bliss, Chair
Rep. Herbert Adams
Rep. Peter L. Rines
Rep. Christopher W. Babbidge
Rep. John R. Brautigam
Rep. Kenneth C. Fletcher
Rep. Maitland E. Richardson
Rep. Philip A. Curtis
Rep. Stacey Allen Fitts
Rep. Everett W. McLeod, Sr.*

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

affairs. The Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy may report out legislation to the 2nd Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature legislation providing for the winding up of the affairs of the authority or the repeal of the sunset.

11. It allows a reimbursement for taxes paid on the purchase of machinery and equipment to develop an advanced communications technology infrastructure in a qualifying zones designated by the authority. The total amount reimbursed in any fiscal year may not exceed \$500,000. This tax reimbursement provision is repealed January 31, 2009.

LD 2088

**Resolve, Concerning the Collection of the Statewide E-9-1-1
Surcharge from Prepaid Wireless Telephone Service**

RESOLVE 162

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2088 was reported by the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy pursuant to Resolve 2005, chapter 62, section 3.

This resolve proposed to direct the Public Utilities Commission to form a stakeholder group to define an appropriate amount of and means of collecting and remitting an E-9-1-1 surcharge on prepaid wireless telephone service. The commission would be directed to submit a report of the stakeholder group's recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by January 1, 2007. The resolve proposed to authorize the commission to offer its own recommendations on the subject if the stakeholder group failed to reach agreement or the commission otherwise determined it appropriate to supply its own separate recommendations. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters would be authorized to report out legislation relating to the subject matter of this resolve to the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Enacted law summary

Resolve 2005, chapter 162 directs the Public Utilities Commission to form a stakeholder group to define an appropriate amount of and means of collecting and remitting an E-9-1-1 surcharge on prepaid wireless telephone service. The commission is directed to submit a report of the stakeholder group's recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by January 1, 2007. The resolve authorizes the commission to offer its own recommendations on the subject if the stakeholder group fails to reach agreement or the commission otherwise determines it appropriate to supply its own separate recommendations. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters is authorized to report out legislation relating to the subject matter of this resolve to the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 2100

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Anson Water District

P & S 51

Sponsor(s)
MILLS P

Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted
S-601

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

LD 2100 proposed to amend the charter of the Anson Water District. It proposed to clarify the district's boundaries, give the district access to groundwater anywhere in the town and specify that the district's election of officers takes place at the annual meeting of the district.

Committee Amendment “A” (S-601) proposed to make a technical change to the bill to clarify that it is the election of trustees, not officers, that occurs at the time of the district's annual meeting.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 51 amends the charter of the Anson Water District. It clarifies the district's boundaries, gives the district access to groundwater anywhere in the town and specifies that the district's election of trustees takes place at the annual meeting of the district.

LD 2117

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Starboard Water District

**P & S 63
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)
RAYE
EMERY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2117, which was enacted without reference to committee, proposed to extend from July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007 the date by which an election must be held for the legal voters of the Town of Machiasport to vote on creating the Starboard Water District.

Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 63 extends from July 1, 2006 to July 1, 2007 the date by which an election must be held for the legal voters of the Town of Machiasport to vote on creating the Starboard Water District.

Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 63 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 30, 2006.