

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
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES AND
ENERGY**

July 2007

MEMBERS:

SEN. PHILIP L. BARTLETT, II, CHAIR
SEN. BARRY J. HOBBS
SEN. DOUGLAS M. SMITH

REP. LAWRENCE BLISS, CHAIR
REP. HERBERT ADAMS
REP. PETER L. RINES
REP. RICHARD D. BLANCHARD
REP. SETH A. BERRY
REP. JON HINCK
REP. KENNETH C. FLETCHER
REP. PHILIP A. CURTIS
REP. STACEY ALLEN FITTS
REP. MICHAEL THIBODEAU

STAFF:

LUCIA A. NIXON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670

STATE OF MAINE

123RD LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS



This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* summarizes all bills and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature, which was in session from December 6, 2006 to June 21, 2007.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee, and within each committee by LD number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. The appendices include a summary of relevant session statistics, an index of all bills by LD number and an index of enacted laws by law type and chapter 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 (or Accepted ONTP report).....	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.....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session is **September 20, 2007**. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure is specified in the enacted law summary for those bills.

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

LD 33 An Act To Simplify Wireless Telecommunications

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROSEN R	ONTP	

This bill authorizes the Public Utilities Commission, to the extent permitted under federal law, to prevent providers of mobile telecommunications services from requiring subscribers to dial the area code when dialing a number in the same area code.

The Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy, by letter dated 2/21/07, requested that the Public Utilities Commission notify the committee if it encounters any legal barriers in responding to consumer complaints related to in-state dialing pattern requirements.

LD 36 An Act To Transfer the Administration of the Renewable Resource Fund from the State Planning Office to the Public Utilities Commission

**PUBLIC 18
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BLISS BARTLETT	OTP-AM	H-10

This bill transfers responsibilities for administering the Renewable Resource Fund from the State Planning Office to the Public Utilities Commission. The bill also adds municipalities and school administrative districts to the list of entities eligible to receive money from the Renewable Resource Fund for community demonstration projects.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-10)

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause to the bill and provides for an effective date of July 1, 2007. It amends the list of entities that are eligible to receive distributions from the Renewable Resource Fund for community demonstration projects to add quasi-municipal corporations and districts. The amendment also adds a requirement that the Public Utilities Commission make an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters regarding the Renewable Resource Fund and the activities funded by the fund.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 18 transfers responsibilities for administering the Renewable Resource Fund from the State Planning Office to the Public Utilities Commission. The law expands the list of entities that are eligible to receive distributions from the Renewable Resource Fund for community demonstration projects to include municipalities, school administrative districts and quasi-municipal corporations and districts. The law also requires that the Public Utilities Commission make an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters regarding the Renewable Resource Fund and the activities funded by the fund.

Public Law 2007, chapter 18 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2007.