

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 1382 An Act To Create a Utility District in Edgecomb

P & S 10

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKANE	OTP-AM	H-113

This bill creates the Edgecomb Utility District, subject to approval by referendum vote.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-113)

This amendment adds a provision to the bill to authorize the Edgecomb Utility District to purchase the water and wastewater assets of the Town of Edgecomb. It also incorporates that provision into the referendum question.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 10 creates the Edgecomb Utility District and authorizes the Edgecomb Utility District to purchase the water and wastewater assets of the Town of Edgecomb, subject to approval by referendum vote.

LD 1383 An Act To Enhance Availability of Emergency Telephone Services

PUBLIC 226

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ADAMS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-282

This bill requires local exchange carriers to provide dial tone for E-9-1-1 purposes, or "soft dial tone," on all residential customer telephone lines in the state. The "soft dial tone" must be maintained by the carrier regardless of whether telephone service is in place at the premises and must continue after telephone service is disconnected for any reason, for as long as the local exchange carrier is the last carrier to provide service at that location.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-282)

This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish, by major substantive rule, requirements for the provision of E-9-1-1 access to the premises of a residential telephone customer when telephone service to the premises has been otherwise suspended or disconnected. The rules must address, but are not limited to, the circumstances in which E-9-1-1 access-only service is and is not required and which telephone service providers are and are not subject to the requirements. The amendment requires the commission to submit provisionally adopted rules to the Legislature by January 15, 2008 and authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature regarding E-9-1-1 access-only service.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 226 requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish, by major substantive rule, requirements for the provision of E-9-1-1 access to the premises of a residential telephone customer when telephone service to the premises has been otherwise suspended or disconnected. The rules must address, but are not limited to, the circumstances in which E-9-1-1 access-only service is and is not required and which telephone service providers are and are not subject to the requirements. The law requires the commission to submit provisionally adopted rules to the Legislature by January 15, 2008 and authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature regarding E-9-1-1 access-only service.