

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
124TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 124th Maine Legislature coming from the

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES AND
ENERGY**

July 2009

STAFF:

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

MEMBERS:

SEN. BARRY J. HOBBS, CHAIR
SEN. PETER B. BOWMAN
SEN. ROGER L. SHERMAN

REP. JON HINCK, CHAIR
REP. HERBERT C. ADAMS
REP. RICHARD D. BLANCHARD
REP. STACY T. DOSTIE
REP. SEAN FLAHERTY
REP. DAVID A. VAN WIE
REP. JOSEPH ANDREW WAGNER
REP. KENNETH C. FLETCHER
REP. STACEY ALLEN FITTS
REP. MICHAEL D. THIBODEAU

STATE OF MAINE

124TH 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 124th Maine Legislature.

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:

CARRIED OVER.....	Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
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; bill died
ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report).....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature is September 12, 2009. 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

input from the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security in administering the Clean Fuel Vehicle Fund. The law also authorizes the Secretary of State to develop and administer a cost-effective method for a person to contribute to the Clean Fuel Vehicle fund through an online process.

LD 396

An Act Regarding Installation of Solar Energy Systems under the Solar and Wind Energy Rebate Program

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NUTTING J	ONTP	

To qualify for a rebate under current law governing the solar and wind energy rebate program, a solar photovoltaic system must be installed by a master electrician who has been certified by a North American board of certified energy practitioners or by a master electrician working in conjunction with a person who has been certified by a North American board of certified energy practitioners, and a solar thermal system designed to heat water must be installed by a qualified solar thermal water system installer. This bill amends the law to allow for a rebate when the owner or tenant of a residential or commercial property performs the installation of a solar photovoltaic system or a solar thermal system designed to heat water, as long as the installation has been inspected and approved by a municipal electrical inspector, in the case of solar photovoltaic systems, or a municipal plumbing inspector in the case of solar thermal systems designed to heat water.

LD 407

Resolve, To Identify Funding Available To Promote the Use of Energy-efficient Furnaces

**RESOLVE 18
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLOWMAN	OTP-AM	S-39

This resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to amend its rules governing conservation programs to provide funding to promote the use of more efficient furnaces by low-income residents.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-39)

This amendment replaces the resolve. The amendment directs the Public Utilities Commission to identify funding sources available to the State and strategies to use such funding to promote the use of energy-efficient furnaces, particularly among low-income residents.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 18 directs the Public Utilities Commission to identify funding sources available to the State and strategies to use such funding to promote the use of energy-efficient furnaces, particularly among low-income residents.

Resolve 2009, chapter 18 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2009.