

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES AND  
ENERGY**

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# STATE OF MAINE

124<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
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## 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 124<sup>th</sup> 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:

<i>CARRIED OVER</i> .....	<i>Carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature</i>
<i>CON RES XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i>
<i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> .....	<i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> .....	<i>House &amp; Senate disagree; bill died</i>
<i>DIED IN CONCURRENCE</i> .....	<i>One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill</i>
<i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> .....	<i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i>
<i>EMERGENCY</i> .....	<i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i>
<i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE</i> .....	<i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i>
<i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> .....	<i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i>
<i>NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY</i> .....	<i>Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died</i>
<i>INDEF PP</i> .....	<i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed; bill died</i>
<i>ONTP (or Accepted ONTP report)</i> .....	<i>Ought Not To Pass report accepted; bill died</i>
<i>P&amp;S XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Private &amp; Special Law</i>
<i>PUBLIC XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i>
<i>RESOLVE XXX</i> .....	<i>Chapter # of finally passed Resolve</i>
<i>UNSIGNED</i> .....	<i>Bill held by Governor</i>
<i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> .....	<i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i>

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124<sup>th</sup> 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

**LD 1334**

**An Act To Ensure Continued Access to Emergency Information in the State by Allowing Governments To Build Federally Licensed Television Translators**

**PUBLIC 117**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HOBBS	OTP	

This bill permits municipalities and counties to receive federal funds for the construction and operation of broadcast television translator stations.

### Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2009, chapter 117 permits municipalities and counties to receive federal funds for the construction and operation of broadcast television translator stations.

**LD 1348**

**Resolve, To Provide Grants to Public Educational and Municipal Entities for Feasibility Studies of Renewable Energy Projects**

**RESOLVE 65  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ADAMS	OTP-AM	H-227

This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish and administer a program to provide grants to public educational and municipal entities to conduct feasibility studies for the installation and operation of renewable energy projects on public property. The bill authorizes the commission to apply for funding from the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund to fund the grant program.

### Committee Amendment "A" (H-227)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to utilize federal stimulus funds made available under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to provide grants to public educational and municipal entities to conduct feasibility studies for the installation and operation of cost-effective renewable energy projects on public property. The amendment directs the commission to give priority to applicants that commit to fund 10% of the cost of the feasibility study either in a financial commitment or the equivalent value of volunteer or in-kind contributions. The amendment authorizes the commission to adopt rules as necessary to administer the grants and directs the Public Utilities Commission to submit an interim report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters by April 1, 2010 and a final report no later than December 31, 2011 regarding the grants provided.

### Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2009, chapter 65 directs the Public Utilities Commission to utilize federal stimulus funds made available under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to provide grants to public educational and municipal entities to conduct feasibility studies for the installation and operation of cost-effective renewable energy projects on public property. It directs the commission to give priority to applicants that commit to fund 10% of the cost of the feasibility study either in a financial commitment or the equivalent value of volunteer or in-kind contributions. It authorizes the commission to adopt rules as necessary to administer the grants and directs the Public Utilities Commission to submit an interim report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having