

# 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**  
126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES  
AND TECHNOLOGY**

July 2013

**STAFF:**

JEAN GUZZETTI, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. JOHN J. CLEVELAND, CHAIR  
SEN. TROY DALE JACKSON  
SEN. EDWARD M. YOUNGBLOOD

REP. BARRY J. HOBBS, CHAIR  
REP. ROBERTA B. BEAVERS  
REP. DIANE RUSSELL  
REP. SARA GIDEON  
REP. DEANE RYKERSON  
REP. RYAN D. TIPPING-SPITZ  
REP. LARRY C. DUNPHY  
REP. AARON F. LIBBY  
REP. LANCE EVANS HARVELL  
REP. MELVIN NEWENDYKE

# STATE OF MAINE

126<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD 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 LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

*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; legislation died  
*DIED BETWEEN HOUSES*.....House & Senate disagreed; legislation died  
*DIED IN CONCURRENCE*.....defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died  
*DIED ON ADJOURNMENT*..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died  
*EMERGENCY*..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment  
*FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE* ..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote  
*FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE*..... failed to receive final majority vote  
*FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT* ..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote  
*HELD BY GOVERNOR*..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session  
*LEAVE TO WITHDRAW*..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted  
*NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY* ..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died  
*INDEF PP*..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died  
*ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X*... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died  
*P&S XXX*..... chapter # of enacted private & special law  
*PUBLIC XXX*.....chapter # of enacted public Law  
*RESOLVE XXX*..... chapter # of finally passed resolve  
*VETO SUSTAINED*..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature is October 9, 2013. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

*Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology*

**LD 94 An Act To Prohibit Wireless Smart Meter Opt-out Fees**

**INDEF PP**

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

This bill was acted upon without reference to committee.

This bill prohibits a transmission and distribution utility from charging a customer a fee or a higher rate for declining the installation of a wireless smart meter or using a meter other than a wireless smart meter.

The concepts raised in this bill are addressed in LD 826, An Act to Eliminate the Opt-out Charges for Smart Meters. LD 826 was carried over to any special or regular session of the 126th Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1145, as amended by H-B (H-580) and H-C (H-582).

**LD 114 An Act To Amend the Charter of the Portland Water District**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill requires the Portland Water District to charge the same rate for the use of water to its customers that reside in the Town of Standish as it charges its customers that reside in towns that are part of the territory supplied by the district and members of the district.

**LD 131 Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Examine Measures To Mitigate the Effects of Geomagnetic Disturbances and Electromagnetic Pulse on the State's Transmission System**

**RESOLVE 45  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOLAND PATRICK	OTP-AM	H-121

This bill requires a person submitting a petition to the Public Utilities Commission for the purposes of receiving a certificate of public convenience and necessity for building a transmission line to include a description of design measures to be used that limit electromagnetic field levels and ensure the protection of the transmission and distribution system against damage from an electromagnetic pulse or a geomagnetic storm. The bill also requires the commission to consider electromagnetic field levels, electromagnetic pulse protections and geomagnetic storm protections when determining the public need for a transmission line.

This bill adds similar requirements for the deciding authority, when determining whether an energy infrastructure proposal is in the long-term interest of the State, to consider electromagnetic field levels and electromagnetic pulse and geomagnetic storm dangers.

The bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection and within six months of the effective date of this Act, to adopt routine technical rules to identify effective design measures to limit electromagnetic field levels and ensure the protection of the transmission and distribution system against damage from an electromagnetic pulse or a geomagnetic storm.