

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH 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

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STATE OF MAINE

126TH LEGISLATURE

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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 126th 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 126th 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

Finally, the bill requires any transmission line currently under construction upon the effective date of the rules to incorporate 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.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-121)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Public Utilities Commission to conduct an examination of the vulnerabilities of the State's transmission infrastructure to the potential negative impacts of a geomagnetic disturbance or electromagnetic pulse capable of disabling, disrupting or destroying a transmission and distribution system and to identify potential mitigation measures. The commission is also required to monitor efforts by regional and federal organizations to address this issue and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by January 20, 2014. The committee may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature based on the report. The amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause to the bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2013, chapter 45 directs the Public Utilities Commission to conduct an examination of the vulnerabilities of the State's transmission infrastructure to the potential negative impacts of a geomagnetic disturbance or electromagnetic pulse capable of disabling, disrupting or destroying a transmission and distribution system and to identify potential mitigation measures. The commission is also required to monitor efforts by regional and federal organizations to address this issue and report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by January 20, 2014. The committee may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature based on the report.

Additionally, the committee sent a letter to the Public Utilities Commission requesting that an interim report be submitted to the committee by June 20, 2013 that contains a preliminary list of the sources that the commission will reference during the study, any pertinent information that the commission would like to share with the committee and a description of the commission's approach or process to complete the full study.

Resolve 2013, chapter 45 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 10, 2013.

LD 175

An Act To Update the Laws Governing Energy Efficiency Building Performance Standards

PUBLIC 120

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CLEVELAND HOBBINS	OTP-AM	S-47

This bill changes the definition of ASHRAE standards and repeals definitions dealing with the energy efficiency building performance standards to reflect the changes made by the enactment of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.

The bill also directs the Public Utilities Commission to repeal rules that established the standards that comprised the Maine Model Building Energy Code.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-47)

This amendment removes the definition of "ASHRAE standards" from the bill and repeals the definition of "ASHRAE Standard 62-2001" in the Energy Efficiency Building Performance Standards Act because the use of terms "ASHRAE standards" and "ASHREA Standard 62-2001" are only in sections of the law proposed to be repealed by this bill.

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 120 repeals definitions dealing with the energy efficiency building performance standards to reflect the changes made by the enactment of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. It also directs the Public Utilities Commission to repeal rules that established the standards that comprised the Maine Model Building Energy Code.

LD 179 An Act To Amend the Anson and Madison Water District Charter

P & S 5

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNPHY CLEVELAND	OTP-AM	H-22

This bill amends the Anson and Madison Water District charter by changing the date on which the terms of the trustees expire from November 15th to the date of the respective annual town meetings. The bill also strikes language that required the trustees of the Anson and Madison Water District, upon dissolution of the Madison Water District and the Anson Water District, to submit legislation to the Legislature to repeal the charters of the Madison Water District and the Anson Water District.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-22)

This amendment adds provisions that repeal the Anson Water District charter and the Madison Water District charter effective September 1, 2014.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 5 amends the Anson and Madison Water District charter by changing the date on which the terms of the trustees expire from November 15th to the date of the respective annual town meetings. The bill also strikes language that requires the trustees of the Anson and Madison Water District, upon dissolution of the Madison Water District and the Anson Water District, to submit legislation to the Legislature to repeal the charters of the Madison Water District and the Anson Water District and instead automatically repeals those charters effective September 1, 2014.

LD 196 An Act Regarding the Implementation of the Quality Assurance Program for Public Safety Answering Points

CARRIED OVER

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

This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to implement the public safety answering point quality assurance program established in 2010 through the use of one or more 3rd-party vendors and ensure that the financing of that program is accomplished with resources other than increased assessments to the municipalities subscribing to or providing the public safety answering point services.

This bill 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).