

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

May 2014

STAFF:

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

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

The *Digest* is arranged 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.

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 HOUSESHouse & 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
EMERGENCYenacted 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 Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is August 1, 2014. 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

on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development regarding the potential health impacts of electric and magnetic fields associated with transmission lines.

LD 965 An Act To Improve Maine's Underground Facility Damage Prevention Program ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BEAULIEU CLEVELAND | ONTP | |

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill establishes the Dig Safe Advisory Board, which will collaborate with the Public Utilities Commission for the purpose of improving the protection of underground facilities. The bill also requires that persons who own underground facilities and who are not members of the underground facility damage prevention system register their facilities with the Public Utilities Commission and provide the commission with current 24-hour contact information for purposes of notification regarding excavations.

LD 1004 An Act To Clarify Voting Procedures for Standard Water Districts ONTP

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOBBINS | ONTP | |

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill clarifies voting procedures for standard water districts. Currently, standard district charters and charter amendments approved by the Legislature and the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, sections 6410, 6413 and 6413-A use language to the effect that referendum elections or trustee elections must be conducted in accordance with the laws relating to municipal elections without explicitly stating that the secret ballot method of voting is to be used. This bill clarifies that secret ballot voting in accordance with Title 30-A, section 2528 is the method to be used to enact or amend a standard district charter by referendum, to elect trustees or to establish or amend a debt limit by referendum, even if a municipality in which the standard district is located has not accepted this method of voting.

LD 1013 An Act To Create the Wireless Information Act Died On Adjournment

| <u>Sponsor(s)</u> | <u>Committee Report</u> | <u>Amendments Adopted</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOLAND COLLINS | OTP-AM ONTP | H-618 H-674 BOLAND |

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill provides that a retailer may not sell at retail in this State a cellular telephone unless the cellular telephone and its packaging bear a warning label relating to the potential health effects associated with nonthermal effects of cellular telephone radiation. It requires the manufacturer of the cellular telephone to provide the warning labels to the retailer at no cost to the retailer. The bill also requires that any safety notification supplied by a cellular telephone manufacturer must have the language of the safety notification plainly visible on the outside of the