

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**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

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# STATE OF MAINE

126<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* 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*

This Part amends the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Act of 2007 to provide consistency with regional targets, directs the Department of Environmental Protection and the Public Utilities Commission to work together to modify a current regional greenhouse gas initiative offset category to allow for fuel switching and further directs the Department of Environmental Protection and the Public Utilities Commission to promote this modification with other regional greenhouse gas initiative states.

### PART E

This Part requires electricity transmission and distribution utilities to provide new options for municipal street lighting programs and provides for how a municipality may be charged for the utility infrastructure services provided, how the location of street and area lighting will be provided, at what rates or by what methods the electricity delivery charges may be assessed and how a municipality may transition from one option to another during the course of any year.

### PART F

This Part directs the Public Utilities Commission to consider economic efficiency when designing rates.

### PART G

This Part authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to extend the number of customers who may participate in the pilot program for efficient electric heat pumps and extend the length of the pilot period, allows more flexibility in the manner in which incentives are provided to customers and clarifies that nothing in the legislation related to the pilot program is intended to limit any currently existing authority of the Public Utilities Commission to establish special rates with respect to customers participating in the pilot program, as long as the costs of the pilot program are recovered only from customers participating in the program.

### PART H

This Part authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to issue a 2nd solicitation for deep-water offshore wind projects under the provisions of Public Law 2009, chapter 615 if the original recipient of the contract does not move forward in development for any reason. This section of law was further amended by LD 1472.

Public Law 2013, chapter 369 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 26, 2013.

#### **LD 1562**    **An Act To Amend the Charter of the Alfred Water District**

**P & S 16  
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

TUTTLE

Committee Report

OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted

S-289

This bill amends the charter of the Alfred Water District by requiring a vacancy in the board of trustees to be filled by appointment by the remaining trustees.

#### **Committee Amendment "A" (S-289)**

This amendment limits the appointment of a trustee to fill a vacancy on the board of trustees of the Alfred Water District to circumstances other than the normal expiration of a term. The appointed trustee may serve until the next municipal election.

#### **Enacted Law Summary**

## ***Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology***

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 16 allows the remaining trustees to appoint a new trustee to fill a vacancy on the board of trustees of the Alfred Water District due to circumstances other than the normal expiration of a term. The appointed trustee may serve until the next municipal election.

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 16 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 21, 2013.