

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

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STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
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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

LD 1618 **An Act To Enhance the Sustainability of the Corinna Water District**

P & S 26

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE	OTP-AM	H-736

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to enhance the sustainability of the Corinna Water District by facilitating cooperation between water districts and protecting the interests of ratepayers in the event of a merger between water districts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-736)

This amendment redefines the boundaries of the Corinna Water District and expands the geographical area in which a trustee of the district may reside from within the district boundaries to within the Town of Corinna.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 26 redefines the boundaries of the Corinna Water District and expands the geographical area in which a trustee of the district may reside from within the district boundaries to within the Town of Corinna.

LD 1619 **An Act To Provide for a Quorum at the Public Utilities Commission**

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RUSSELL	OTP-AM	H-645 S-461 CLEVELAND

This bill requires the Governor to appoint a replacement for a member of the Public Utilities Commission whose recusal from a proceeding due to a conflict of interest prevents the commission from having a quorum. The Governor must appoint a replacement by lottery from a list maintained by the Governor of five qualified persons approved by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public utilities matters.

The concepts in this bill were incorporated into LD 1860.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-645)

This amendment replaces the bill. This amendment authorizes the Governor to appoint, subject to confirmation by the Legislature, three individuals to be alternate commissioners of the Public Utilities Commission. An alternate commissioner is randomly selected to be appointed a temporary commissioner to a proceeding at the Public Utilities Commission if a quorum is not available due to conflict of interest, disability or other reason.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-461)

This amendment specifies with more detail the compensation that will be provided to a temporary commissioner.