

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2015

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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 127th 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. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

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

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is October 15, 2015. 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

standardized dispatch protocols than available funding will cover. This bill directs the bureau to seek input from the statewide association of dispatchers when developing the criteria for rules.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-268)

This amendment changes the adoption and implementation of standardized dispatch protocols from voluntary to mandatory and limits those protocols to only fire calls, instead of police and fire as in the bill. This amendment phases in adoption and implementation over a three-year period and requires the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to adopt routine technical rules, with input from all public safety answering point managing entities, that identify the phase-in process and address program administration. Lastly, this amendment directs the Emergency Services Communication Bureau to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters that includes cost estimates for the adoption and implementation of standardized dispatch protocols for answering police 9-1-1- calls, the time it would take to phase in these protocols based on available funding from the surcharge in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 2927, subsections 1-E and 1-F, whether there should be a certification and licensing requirement for all standardized dispatch protocols and any other recommendations to ensure efficient and effective oversight of the standardized dispatch protocols. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters may submit legislation during the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature relating to the report.

The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2015, chapter 230 directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to assist public safety answering points in the adoption and implementation of standardized dispatch protocols for fire 9-1-1 calls by using up to five cents of each E-9-1-1 surcharge and prepaid wireless telecommunications service E-9-1-1 surcharge collected to provide dispatcher training, necessary software and support materials, and quality assurance training and software. It requires the adoption and implementation of standardized dispatch protocols for fire 9-1-1 calls to be phased in over a three-year period. It requires the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to adopt routine technical rules, with input from all public safety answering point managing entities, that identify the phase-in process and address program administration. Lastly, it directs the Emergency Services Communication Bureau to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters that includes cost estimates for the adoption and implementation of standardized dispatch protocols for answering police 9-1-1- calls, the time it would take to phase in these protocols based on available funding from the surcharge in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 2927, subsections 1-E and 1-F, whether there should be a certification and licensing requirement for all standardized dispatch protocols and any other recommendations to ensure efficient and effective oversight of the standardized dispatch protocols. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters may submit legislation during the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature relating to the report.

LD 1257

Resolve, To Make Home Heat Pumps Affordable

ONTP

Sponsor(s)

FREDETTE

Committee Report

ONTP

Amendments Adopted

This resolve allows the Public Utilities Commission to authorize a transmission and distribution utility to purchase heat pumps for consumer use and offer special discounted electric rates or other assistance to make heat pumps more accessible to residents of the State.