

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

May 2016

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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 Second 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.

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 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 127th Legislature is July 29, 2016. 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 1315 An Act To Amend Maine's Restructuring Laws

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DUNPHY L MASON G	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

This bill allows an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to own generation assets if the Public Utilities Commission determines that ownership is beneficial to the utility's ratepayers.

LD 1339 An Act To Provide Relief to Maine Ratepayers

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THIBODEAU M DUNPHY L	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

This bill direct the Public Utilities Commission to reject all bids to provide standard offer service, suspend the renewable portfolio standard, and issue a new request for proposals, if the commission does not receive a bid below ten cents per kilowatt hour for a class of customers in a transmission and distribution utility's service territory. If, following the new request for proposals, a bid is accepted by the commission for less than ten cents per kilowatt hour, the suspension of the renewable portfolio standards remains in effect for the duration of that standard offer period.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-424)

This amendment, which is the minority report, strikes the bill and instead allows the Public Utilities Commission, when it determines that electricity supply prices are at historically high levels, to set the alternative compliance payment rate for new renewable capacity resources at a level that reduces higher revenue for generators of new renewable capacity resources. The amendment also specifies that if the annualized average standard offer electricity supply pricing for residential customers is 10 cents per kilowatt hour or higher, the commission must reduce the alternative compliance payment rate by 100 percent, which has the effect of suspending the renewable portfolio requirement.

This amendment was not adopted.

LD 1382 An Act To Assist Low-income Electricity Consumers

Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON C	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.