

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION



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

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

August 2017

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH 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 128th 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 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 128th Legislature is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. 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 55

An Act To Provide Funding for the Restoration of China Lake

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THERIAULT T CYRWAY S	ONTP	

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

This bill proposes to charge a fee to customers of the Kennebec Water District to be used to restore the water quality of China Lake. Under the bill, the fee would be charged on the use of water on a per gallon basis and would be for a limited number of years.

LD 58

An Act To Limit Radio Frequency Interference from Certain Grow Light Ballasts

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KINNEY J DIAMOND B	ONTP	

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

This bill proposes to limit the use of any grow light ballast that does not comply with Federal Communications Commission rules and interferes with short-wave radio transmissions.

LD 90

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Rumford Water District

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KEIM L MADIGAN J	OTP-AM ONTP	S-54

This bill requires that all proposed commercial contracts of the Rumford Water District for water extraction or water resale be subject to a vote by the voters of the district. For the vote to be valid, the total number of votes cast must be at least 60% of the number of votes cast for Governor by the voters of the district at the last gubernatorial election.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-54)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee, and it strikes and replaces the bill. The amendment also removes the emergency status from the bill. It allows the trustees of the Rumford Water District to submit to the legal voters of the district the question of whether the charter for the district should be amended to require that the legal voters of the district elect trustees, instead of having trustees appointed by the municipal officers as the charter currently requires. This amendment specifies that if a referendum is called, it must be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections. If the referendum is called and a majority of the legal voters vote to change the charter to allow for the election of district trustees, the amendment contains transition language that allows the currently serving appointed trustees to finish out their terms, and any unplanned vacancy is filled through the election process established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 6410, subsection 1.