

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

October 2018

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STATE OF MAINE

128TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL, SECOND REGULAR AND SECOND SPECIAL SESSIONS



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contain summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the First Special, Second Regular and Second Special Sessions 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 dates for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Special, Second Regular or Second Special Sessions of the 128th Legislature are: Monday, February 5, 2018; Wednesday, August 1, 2018; and Thursday, December 13, 2018, respectively. 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 532 An Act To Remove the 100-megawatt Limit on Hydroelectric Generators
under the Renewable Resources Laws**

**Accepted Majority
(ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'CONNOR B	ONTP OTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

This bill, for the purpose of meeting the State's renewable resource portfolio requirement, removes the 100-megawatt maximum capacity limit for:

1. A hydroelectric generator that meets all state and federal fish passage requirements applicable to generators to qualify as a renewable capacity resource, and
2. A hydroelectric generator to qualify as a renewable resource.

LD 822 An Act To Ensure Fairness among Large Consumers of Natural Gas

PUBLIC 358

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DION M HARVELL L	OTP-AM	S-400

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

This bill extends the existing ineligibility for participation in and the exemption from assessment for natural gas conservation programs to large-volume customers that do not purchase their natural gas from a Maine gas utility. Large-volume customers are defined as those purchasing at least 1,000,000 centum cubic feet of natural gas per year.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-400)

This amendment replaces the bill. It limits the assessment under the natural gas conservation program on a large-volume agricultural business to only the first 1,000,000 centum cubic feet of natural gas used by that agricultural business in each year, but specifies that this limitation does not limit the ability of a large-volume agricultural business from participating in a natural gas conservation program and it does not affect the determination of the Efficiency Maine Trust on the total amount necessary to capture all cost-effective energy efficiency that is achievable and reliable.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2017, chapter 358 limits the assessment under the natural gas conservation program on a large-volume agricultural business to only the first 1,000,000 centum cubic feet of natural gas used by that agricultural business in each year, but specifies that this limitation does not limit the ability of a large-volume agricultural business from participating in a natural gas conservation program and it does not affect the determination of the Efficiency Maine Trust on the total amount necessary to capture all cost-effective energy efficiency that is achievable and reliable.